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India's grain bowl, after the deluge

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India will be among top five by 2047

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Goods vehicle ploughs into crowd in Hassan, eight dead

The Hindu Bureau
SHIVAMOGGA

Eight persons died and around 25 people were injured when a goods vehicle ploughed into a crowd participating in a Ganesha procession at Mosale Hosahalli on Hassan-Holenarasipur Road late on Friday evening.

The police shifted the injured to hospitals in Hassan by ambulances. Among them, eight were brought dead. Of the injured, 18 are under treatment at the Hassan Institute of Medical Sciences and seven people are in private hospitals, according to a communication from Krishna Byre Gowda, Revenue Minister, who is also in-charge of Hassan district, at 11.30 p.m.

The toll is expected to rise, as several people were seriously injured in the incident. Among the dead and injured, a majority were youths. A student of the Government Engineering College at Mosale Hosahalli was among those killed.

A video grab of the truck running over people in Hassan on Friday.

Caught off guard

Many people of Mosale Hosahalli and neighbouring villages were dancing to popular tunes being played as part of the procession when the goods vehicle suddenly ploughed into the crowd. The crowd did not expect the vehicle to come their way.

The movement of vehicles was restricted to one lane and the procession was on the other. The goods vehicle, as seen in the video clip of the incident, took a sudden turn and ploughed into the crowd.

It is said that the goods vehicle first hit a two-wheeler and later the driver lost control over it. The police took Bhuvanesh, the driver, into custody.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has announced compensation of ₹5 lakh each to the families of those who died in the accident and stated that the government would bear the cost of the treatment of the injured.

Mr. Siddaramaiah posted on X, stating that he was pained to learn about the incident and wished the injured a speedy recovery.

Union Minister for Heavy Industries H.D. Kumaraswamy has expressed shock over the accident.

In a post on X, formerly Twitter, Mr. Kumaraswamy said the death of people in the incident had left him deeply shocked.

Karki is Nepal's first woman PM

- 73-year-old former Chief Justice, who backed the protesters, has to appoint Cabinet, oversee polls
- President Ram Chandra Poudel dissolves Nepal's Parliament, accepting a key Gen Z demand

Sanjeev Satgainya
KATHMANDU

Nepal President Ram Chandra Poudel appointed former Chief Justice Sushila Karki as the country's new Prime Minister and dissolved Parliament on Friday, as days of political turmoil showed signs of abating in the Himalayan nation. He also announced fresh elections on March 5, 2026.

Mr. Poudel administered the oath of office and secrecy to Ms. Karki at a brief ceremony. According to the Office of the President, Mr. Poudel dissolved the House and set the election date at the recommendation of the newly appointed Prime Minister.

Ms. Karki, 73, the first woman Chief Justice of Nepal, is now the country's first woman Prime Minister.

Following hectic meetings that began late on Thursday, Mr. Poudel on Friday evening agreed to dissolve Parliament, a key demand of Gen Z protesters who brought down the government of K.P. Sharma Oli on September 9. Ms. Karki will soon form a Cabinet that will oversee the elections.

Even after Gen Z campaigners agreed on Ms. Karki's name as the leader of the next government, a dispute over the dissolution of Parliament had delayed the process of her appointment.

Mr. Poudel has held several rounds of consultations with Ms. Karki and other legal experts, facilitated by the Army, since Thursday night.

According to sources and experts he consulted, the President was extremely concerned that dissolving Parliament before appointing the head of government could give a free rein to the new Cabinet, with nobody to hold it accountable. Ms. Karki, however, backed the protesters' demand that the House be dissolved. Protesters argued that if Parliament was not dissolved, the same old parties would retain their control and influence.

Regime change: Ram Chandra Poudel administers oath of office to Sushila Karki as Prime Minister, in Kathmandu on Friday. AFP

Sudan Gurung, a prominent Gen Z campaigner, said on Thursday that House dissolution was non-negotiable, echoing Kathmandu Mayor Balendra Shah, a leading figure in the movement. Protesters had agreed on the choice of Ms. Karki only after Mr. Shah endorsed her.

As young campaigners waited in front of the President's Office throughout Friday, party insiders said Mr. Poudel had also consulted major political leaders, who told him that any action he took should remain within constitutional limits.

The Army, the key facilitator whose presence on the streets has ensured a semblance of calm, was waiting for the process to move ahead as soon as possible and was getting exasperated as the hours passed, sources said.

Though some expressed concerns that the process of appointing Ms. Karki fell outside constitutional bounds, constitutional expert Bipin Adhikari said it was "unlikely" to be challenged in court.

"Given that her appointment is a remedial measure taken at a time of crisis, its legitimacy is not likely to be questioned," Mr. Adhikari said.

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NEARBY

BMRCL finally releaes FFC report

BENGALURU
After nearly seven months of delay and repeated demands from the public, Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) has finally uploaded the Fare Fixation Committee (FFC) report on its website.
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200 tourists stranded in Nepal back home

BENGALURU
nearly 200 tourists from the State stranded in Kathmandu arrived in Bengaluru on a Nepal Airlines special flight.
» PAGE 4

PROPERTYPLUS » PAGE 7

Stepping forward

Duty begins: Vice-President C.P. Radhakrishnan after taking oath at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi on Friday. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, and other dignitaries were present on the occasion. ANI (REPORT ON PAGE 13)

Retail inflation quickens to 2.1%, ending 9-month drop

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

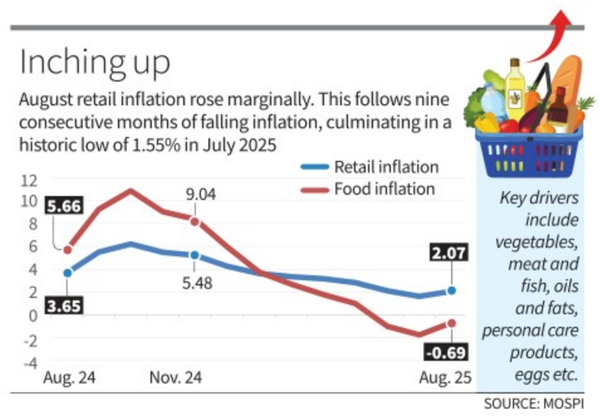
Retail inflation broke a nine-month declining streak in August, quickening to 2.1% from 1.55% in July 2025, according to official data. The inflation in August was marginally higher than the lower bound of the Reserve Bank of India's comfort band of 2%-6% for retail inflation.

The rate of retail inflation had been declining every month since November 2024.

The data released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation on Friday showed that the inflation in the food and beverages category remained flat in August, at 0.05%, compared with 5.3% in August last year.

Inflation in the clothing and footwear category remained virtually unchanged at 2.67% in August 2025 compared with 2.62% in July. Similarly, inflation in the housing segment stood at 3.06% in August compared with 3.03% in July.

The fuel and light category saw a relatively faster increase in inflation, which quickened to 2.9% in August 2025 from 1.4% in July.



SOURCE: MOSPI

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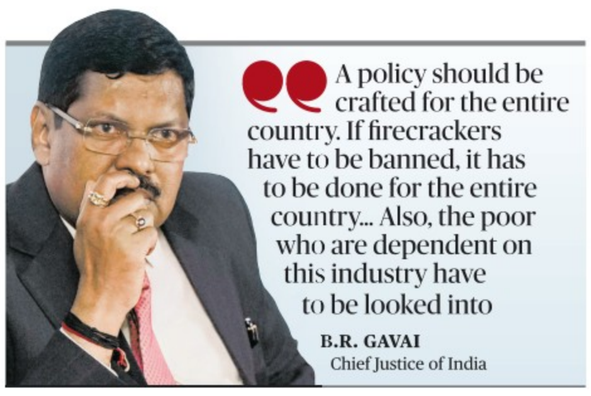
Why firecracker ban only in Delhi, when all have right to clean air: CJI

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The ban on firecrackers should not be confined to the national capital, the Supreme Court said in oral observations on Friday, noting that people across the country have a right to pollution-free air.

"Therefore, a policy should be crafted for the entire country. If firecrackers have to be banned, it has to be done for the entire country... Also, the poor who are dependent on this industry have to be looked into," Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai observed in a hearing ahead of Deepavali and the approach of winter.



> A policy should be crafted for the entire country. If firecrackers have to be banned, it has to be done for the entire country... Also, the poor who are dependent on this industry have to be looked into
>
> **B.R. GAVAI**
> Chief Justice of India

He asked why citizens living in other cities and other parts of the country should not be accorded the same relief from air pollution as the "elite" of Delhi. "Just because this is the national capital city or the Supreme Court is situated in this area, it should have pollution-free air and not the other parts of India?" the Chief Justice asked.

Senior advocate Aparajita Singh, an *amicus curiae* in the air pollution cases, replied that the 'elite' have their own ways to counter air pollution. "There is a misconception that air pollution is only a problem for the elite. It is actually the people on the streets who suffer. The construction labourers and the daily wagers...," Ms. Singh said, adding that people in Delhi literally choke from the pollution.

"Winters are impossible," she said.

Chief Justice Gavai said the problem was national. "I was in Amritsar last winter on Guru Purab day. I was told the pollution in Amritsar was worse than in Delhi... Whatever policy there is [to counter air pollution], it should be on a pan-India basis," he said.

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Govt. caps cinema ticket price at ₹200

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a move that could benefit exhibitors and movie buffs alike, the Karnataka government on Friday notified the ticket price in cinemas across the State, capping the upper price at ₹200, exclusive of taxes. This will be applicable to all cinemas, including multiplex, and for all language movies and will be applicable from the date of the notification being gazetted.

The cap of ₹200, however, is not applicable to all multiplex cinemas with premium facilities of 75 seats or less.

The fee capping has been done through the Karnataka Cinemas (Regulation) (Amendment) Rules, 2025. The draft had been notified on July 15, 2025, inviting views and information from stakeholders.

A similar exercise had been attempted by the Siddaramaiah government in 2017, which came to a halt after the Multiplex Association of India challenged successfully against the move in court.

Karnataka, with the notification, follows Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh where there is a cap on ticket price and only with special permission the ticket price can be increased.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 9

Chithravel, Aboobacker out to make an impression in Tokyo

Two of India's leading triple jumpers will be competing in their third straight World Championships, bidding to make the final for the first time. Both athletes have equalled their personal best this year. Will they be able to summon their finest on the big stage?

Stan Rayan

For the last few months, Praveen Chithravel has been talking about producing something big. The 24-year-old, from Tiruvarur in Tamil Nadu, was once an inconsistent triple jumper, but the story is very different now. The World No. 23 has been in impressive form this year.

Chithravel equalled his two-year-old National record (17.37m) at the Federation Nationals in Kochi in April, won the Asian Championships silver in South Korea in May and picked up another silver at the World University Games in Germany in July.

A big surprise?

And when Chithravel told this writer recently that a big surprise was coming this year, he appeared very convincing.

"But I will not say how much it will be, then it won't be a surprise. If I don't have an injury, it will come," said Chithravel.

The World Athletics Championships begin in Tokyo on Saturday, and while all eyes will be on defending javelin champion Neeraj Chopra and long jumper M. Sreeshankar, who has made a stunning comeback after major knee surgery, there could be plenty of drama in the men's triple jump too.

> If there is no problem with the ankle, [Chithravel] will easily jump 17.50m. His experience is good, power is good... if conditions are good, he will get a big jump
>
> **YOANDRI BETANZOS**
> Coach of Praveen Chithravel

Chithravel's coach Yoandri Betanzos had predicted that the youngster was capable of jumping 17.50m. Will that happen in Tokyo?

Well, there's a small issue.

"Praveen has a problem ankle, but now he is okay. I know the time is very less, he is good, but I need to know his condition just before the competition," said Betanzos, a two-time Worlds silver medallist from Cuba who coaches Chithravel at JSW's IIS centre in Ballari, a few hours before the 19-member Indian team's departure to Tokyo.

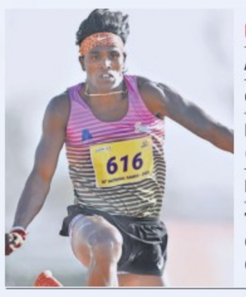
"He has been very good this year. If there is no problem with the ankle, he will easily jump 17.50m. His experience is good, power is good... if conditions are good, he will get a big jump. Only thing, I don't know because he has not been working with his technique properly.

"Before the Federation Cup, if you had asked me, I would have said 17.40 [at the Worlds]. Now, I can't tell you properly how he'd do. You have to do too much competition in India. If he had not done the Inter-State [in Chennai recently], he would have had 100% recovery now, but we had to do the Inter-State."

Indeed, the "problem ankle" could cause Chithravel to shift to the long jump for the 2027 World Championships. "In 2027, after the Asian Championships, he will only be doing long jump. He will try qualifying for the Worlds in the long jump because triple jump will be very hard on his ankle," Betanzos said. "Too much of triple jump is not good for his body."

Abdulla Aboobacker

Age: 29
Current World ranking: 28
Personal best: 17.19m (2022)
Best in 2025: 17.19m
Top honours: 2022 CWG silver, 2023 Asian Championships gold



Praveen Chithravel

Age: 24
Current World ranking: 23
Personal best: 17.37m (2023) | NR
Best in 2025: 17.37m
Top honours: 2023 Asian Games bronze, 2025 Asian Championships silver

That could shift the spotlight to Abdulla Aboobacker, the Commonwealth Games silver medallist and the 2023 Asian champion who is two rungs below Chithravel in India's all-time triple jump performance list.

Like Chithravel, Aboobacker has also equalled his personal best (17.19m) this year but the 29-year-old Air Force athlete is not predicting anything.

"I want to put in my maximum effort, there's no point in having great expectations. It has to be our day, that's the main thing," said Aboobacker, the World No. 28 who hails from Kozhikode.

"I have to see how things are, how the situation there is, my body condition there and I've got to take care while training."

Incidentally, both Chithravel and Aboobacker have registered better jumps than Spain's Olympic champion Jordan Diaz Fortun (season best 17.16m) this year. And Burkina Faso's defending world champion Hugues Fabrice Zango has a best of only 17.21m this season.

Keeping it real

But though these stats look good, Aboobacker felt they won't be of any help in Tokyo.

"Since they have won medals at the Worlds, their mind will be free...and if you look at the other side, there are two to three guys who have done 17.50m this year," explained Aboobacker.

"So, I don't focus on others. As far as possible, I try to produce a performance that does not have any mistakes."

Three years ago, Kerala's Eldhose Paul (wind-aided 17.03m) and Aboobacker (17.02) came up with a historic gold and silver performance at the Birmingham Commonwealth Games in Britain,

> I want to put in my maximum effort, there's no point in having great expectations...I don't focus on others. As far as possible, I try to produce a performance that does not have any mistakes
>
> **ABDULLA ABOOBACKER**

the home of world record holder Jonathan Edwards (18.29m, 1995). That was the first time an Indian won a triple jump gold at the Commonwealth Games. Chithravel was fourth in Birmingham, having missed the bronze by just four centimetres.

Having tasted a major medal with an impressive jump, Aboobacker is keen to produce his best jumps in big championships.

"There is no point in producing a big jump in national meets, we need to break the national record in events like the Asian Games or Commonwealth Games. We are not going to get anything by breaking the national record at home," said Aboobacker, who has been one of India's most consistent triple jumpers over the last few years.

"Even if I do 17.50 in a national meet, I will not get anything. If we do something like that in the Olympics or other majors, we can get something, a good medal. That will also improve our self-confidence. We are capable of doing over 17.50m...17.50 is not a big deal, I can also do 17.50."

This will be the third straight World Championships for both Chithravel and Aboobacker and the two have not entered the final so far. Eldhose Paul, who is recovering from injury, is the lone Indian to enter the triple jump final at the Worlds, having achieved the feat in Oregon 2022, where he finished ninth.

Aboobacker missed securing the last berth for the 12-man final at the most recent Worlds in Budapest in 2023 by just 10cms. Now he has an idea of what he needs to do to make the Tokyo final.

"Almost every time, something like 16.80m would take the last berth for the final. I think that would be the situation this time too. If we go over 17.30, there is a good chance of getting a medal."

Like Chithravel, Aboobacker is also supported by JSW, but he trains under Air Force coach M. Harikrishnan, who has been guiding him since 2019. But Harikrishnan will not be in Tokyo.

Emergency measures

In 2022, no coach was sent to the Worlds and the Commonwealth Games despite three triple jumpers qualifying for both the events, and Harikrishnan had to conduct online sessions at midnight, through video chats, correcting techniques and motivating the athletes.

"It could be the same with Aboobacker this time," said Harikrishnan.

Aboobacker finished higher than Chithravel at the 2023 Worlds (15th overall vs. 20th) and the 2024 Paris Olympics (21st vs. 27th), while Chithravel was better at the 2022 Worlds (17th vs. 19th). It will be interesting to follow the battle between the two in Tokyo.

GETTY IMAGES

STACKING UP

ATP Men's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Carlos Alcaraz	22	11,540	20
2	Jannik Sinner	24	10,780	17
3	Alexander Zverev	28	5,930	23
4	Novak Djokovic	38	4,830	19
5	Taylor Fritz	27	4,675	22
6	Ben Shelton	22	4,280	23
7	Jack Draper	23	3,690	17
8	Alex de Minaur	26	3,545	23
9	Lorenzo Musetti	23	3,505	20
10	Karen Khachanov	29	3,280	25
11	Holger Rune	22	3,090	22
12	Casper Ruud	26	2,755	23
13	Felix Auger-Aliassime	25	2,755	28
14	Andrey Rublev	27	2,610	28
15	Tommy Paul	28	2,510	21

Top Indians ▶

Sumit Nagal
Rank 290 ▲ 3 spots

Aryan Shah
Rank 401 ▼ 2 spots

WTA Women's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Aryna Sabalenka	27	11,225	18
2	Iga Swiatek	24	7,933	16
3	Coco Gauff	21	7,874	19
4	Amanda Anisimova	24	5,159	21
5	Mirra Andreeva	18	4,793	19
6	Madison Keys	30	4,579	19
7	Jessica Pegula	31	4,383	22
8	Jasmine Paolini	29	4,006	19
9	Qinwen Zheng	22	4,003	16
10	Elena Rybakina	26	3,833	21
11	Ekaterina Alexandrova	30	3,026	25
12	Clara Tauson	22	2,721	24
13	Elina Svitolina	30	2,606	15
14	Naomi Osaka	27	2,489	16
15	Karolina Muchova	29	2,488	16

Top Indians ▶

Shrivalli Bhamidipaty
Rank 327 ▲ 4 spots

Sahaja Yamalapalli
Rank 338 ▲ 8 spots

F1 Drivers' standings

#	Driver	Team	Points	Wins
1	Oscar Piastri	McLaren	324	7
2	Lando Norris	McLaren	293	5
3	Max Verstappen	Red Bull	230	3
4	George Russell	Mercedes	194	1
5	Charles Leclerc	Ferrari	163	0
6	Lewis Hamilton	Ferrari	117	0
7	Alexander Albon	Williams	70	0
8	Kimi Antonelli	Mercedes	66	0
9	Isack Hadjar	Racing Bulls	38	0
10	Nico Hulkenberg	Kick Sauber	37	0
11	Lance Stroll	Aston Martin	32	0
12	Fernando Alonso	Aston Martin	30	0
13	Esteban Ocon	Haas	28	0
14	Pierre Gasly	Alpine	20	0
15	Liam Lawson	Racing Bulls	20	0
16	Gabriel Bortoleto	Kick Sauber	18	0
17	Oliver Bearman	Haas	16	0
18	Carlos Sainz	Williams	16	0
19	Yuki Tsunoda	Red Bull	12	0
20	Franco Colapinto	Alpine	0	0

Oscar Piastri

Lando Norris

F1 Constructors' standings

Pos	Team	Points	Wins
1	McLaren	617	12
2	Ferrari	280	0
3	Mercedes	260	1
4	Red Bull	239	3
5	Williams	86	0
6	Aston Martin	62	0
7	RB	61	0
8	Kick Sauber	55	0
9	Haas	44	0
10	Alpine	20	0

Badminton Men's ranking

#	Player	Points	Events
1	Shi Yu Qi	1,10,397	12
2	Anders Antonsen	98,613	16
3	Kunlavut Vitidsarn	95,079	19
4	Li Shi Feng	81,078	18
5	Jonatan Christie	79,314	17
6	Chou Tien Chen	78,769	24
7	Alex Lanier	69,501	15
8	Loh Kean Yew	66,719	17
9	Kodai Naraoka	65,094	19
10	Christo Popov	63,417	19
11	Kenta Nishimoto	58,442	22
12	Weng Hong Yang	57,320	17
13	Toma Junior Popov	56,731	19
14	Lu Guang Zu	56,360	18
15	Lee Cheuk Yiu	56,222	19

Top Indians ▶

Lakshya Sen
Rank 20

Ayush Shetty
Rank 31

Badminton Women's ranking

#	Player	Points	Events
1	An Se Young	1,11,270	13
2	Wang Zhi Yi	1,06,862	17
3	Han Yue	92,600	17
4	Akane Yamaguchi	89,364	13
5	Chen Yu Fei	88,835	13
6	Pornpawee Chochuwong	71,858	20
7	Putri Kusuma Wardani	69,200	19
8	Gregoria Mariska Tunjung	68,360	14
9	Tomoka Miyazaki	66,464	21
10	Ratchanok Intanon	62,464	19
11	Supanida Katethong	62,207	14
12	Sim Yu Jin	60,089	15
13	Gao Fang Jie	59,130	13
14	P.V. Sindhu	56,234	17
15	Yeo Jia Min	56,203	15

Top Indians ▶

P.V. Sindhu
Rank 14

Malvika Bansod
Rank 29

Test Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Joe Root	908	932
2	Harry Brook	868	898
3	Kane Williamson	858	919
4	Steve Smith	816	947
5	Yashasvi Jaiswal	792	858
6	Temba Bavuma	790	806
7	Kamindu Mendis	781	784
8	Rishabh Pant	768	801
9	Daryl Mitchell	748	807
10	Ben Duckett	747	787

Test Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Jasprit Bumrah	889	908
2	Kagiso Rabada	851	902
3	Matt Henry	846	846
4	Pat Cummins	838	914
5	Josh Hazlewood	815	864
6	Noman Ali	806	806
7	Scott Boland	784	784
8	Nathan Lyon	769	812
9	Marco Jansen	767	803
10	Mitchell Starc	766	807

ODI Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Shubman Gill	784	847
2	Rohit Sharma	756	882
3	Babar Azam	739	898
4	Virat Kohli	736	909
5	Daryl Mitchell	720	751
6	Charith Asalanka	716	725
7	Harry Tector	708	767
8	Shreyas Iyer	704	710
9	Shai Hope	699	802
10	Ibrahim Zadran	676	693

ODI Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Keshav Maharaj	690	741
2	Maheesh Theekshana	659	686
3	Jofra Archer	654	654
4	Kuldeep Yadav	650	761
5	Bernard Scholtz	645	648
6	Rashid Khan	640	799
7	Mitchell Santner	637	657
8	Adil Rashid	628	675
9	Matt Henry	622	691
10	Ravindra Jadeja	616	733

T20I Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Abhishek Sharma	829	829
2	Tilak Varma	804	845
3	Philip Salt	791	881
4	Jos Buttler	772	774
5	Travis Head	771	885
6	Suryakumar Yadav	739	912
7	Pathum Nissanka	730	736
8	Tim Seifert	725	727
9	Kusal Perera	687	786
10	Tim David	676	680

T20I Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Jacob Duffy	717	723
2	Adil Rashid	710	747
3	Akeal Hosein	707	714
4	Varun Chakravarthy	706	706
5	Adam Zampa	700	746
6	Ravi Bishnoi	674	707
7	Wanindu Hasaranga	659	809
8	Nathan Ellis	658	664
9	Rashid Khan	653	828
9	Arshdeep Singh	653	679

BMRCL releases FFC report; it reveals panel was for only 51.5% fare hike over 7.5 years

The disclosure comes months after BMRCL implemented the fare hike of up to 71% in February

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

After nearly seven months of delay and repeated demands from the public, Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) has finally uploaded the Fare Fixation Committee (FFC) report on its website.

The long-awaited disclosure comes months after BMRCL implemented a controversial fare hike of up to 71% in February this year. At the time, the corporation claimed that the revision was based on the recommendations of the FFC. But according to the committee's report, the FFC had proposed an increase of 51.55% spread across 7.5 years. This translated to an annualised increase of about 6.87%.

The Fare Fixation Committee emphasised the need to balance affordability for passengers while ensuring BMRCL's long-term financial stability. K. MURALI KUMAR

FFC recommendation

The FFC also proposed restructuring the fare system itself. Instead of the existing 29 slabs, the panel suggested a simplified framework with 10 rounded off slabs in multiples of ₹10. Under this scheme, the minimum fare would remain ₹10 for trips up to 2 km, while the maximum fare would be capped at ₹90 for distances of 25 km and above.

In addition, the report recommended Sunday and national holiday discounts, along with yearly automatic adjustments. The committee emphasised the need to balance affordability for passengers while ensuring BMRCL's long-term financial stability.

Commuters suggestions

The FFC also documented public feedback. Around 1,126 responses were collected via email and WhatsApp. Of these, 27% of respondents said they were open to a "reasonable" fare hike, 51% opposed any increase, and the rest offered suggestions such as student and senior citizen concessions, monthly passes, and off-peak discounts.

While the panel rejected most suggestions citing technical or financial challenges, it did adopt a few. These included limited discounts for off-peak hours and concessional travel on Sundays. The three-member committee comprised R. Tharani, former judge of the Madras High Court; Satyendra Pal Singh, Additional Secretary in the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs; and E.V. Ramana Reddy, retired IAS officer and former additional chief secretary to the Karnataka government. Their report was submitted months ago, but remained inaccessible to the public.

On February 12, *The Hindu* had even filed an RTI request with the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs seeking a copy of the report. The request was forwarded to the BMRCL managing director, but no response was received.

Political controversy

Despite growing pressure from commuters, elected representatives, and multiple Right to Information (RTI) requests, the report itself was kept under wraps until now.

BMRCL's fare hike announcement on February 9 triggered widespread outrage among commuters and quickly snowballed into a political controversy. In some stages, the increase was close to 100%, drawing criticism from both ruling and opposition parties.

Responding to the uproar, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah intervened on February 13 and directed BMRCL to revise the structure, terming the hikes "abnormal."

Following his instructions, the corporation rolled back the steepest increases and capped the maximum hike at 71%. The entry-level fare of ₹10 and the upper ceiling of ₹90 were left unchanged.

Annual hike

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The FFC in its report has suggested an automatic, formula-based revision every year that factored in staff costs (linked to the Consumer Price Index), energy charges, and maintenance expenses, with an upper ceiling of 5% per annum.

Using this method, the committee argued, fares would rise gradually and predictably rather than through sudden steep hikes. The recommendation stood in sharp contrast to BMRCL's earlier proposal of a 105% jump in fares, which the committee rejected as unreasonable.

BMRCL cites State govt.'s Shadow Cash Support withdrawal as reason to seek metro fare hike in report

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The long-awaited Fare Fixation Committee (FFC) report, released after a delay of seven months, has revealed that the likely withdrawal of Shadow Cash Support (SCS) by the Karnataka government is among the key reasons cited by the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) for seeking a fare hike.

In its proposal to the committee, BMRCL stated that until now, the State government had been providing SCS through budgetary allocations. This included reimbursement of operational cash losses and interest-free subordinate debt towards loan repayment to the Government of India and domestic financial institutions.

"Given the present financial position of the State government, it may not continue to provide the SCS," the FFC noted in its report.

Another major justification offered by BMRCL is that the existing fare structure was last fixed in June 2017, when Phase-1 of the metro covering 42.3 km was operational. Since then, 7.5 years have elapsed, and operational costs have risen significantly. Staff salaries, energy expenses, outsourced workforce costs, maintenance, and other expenditures have all increased, while revenue continues to be realised at 2016 price levels, the corporation said.

Opposition slams govt.

The fare hike, which came into effect earlier this year, triggered sharp opposition from political parties and daily commuters. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has criticised both the government and BMRCL for what it termed as "burdening citizens."

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Bengaluru Central MP P.C. Mohan demanded a rollback of the increase as soon as possible. "Instead of subsidising metro operations, the government has shifted the financial burden onto the people. Bengaluru contributes one of the highest shares of tax revenue to the State, yet city residents are denied basic infrastructure support in the form of affordable public transport. The fare should be aligned with what the FFC has recommended," he said.

Tejasvi Surya, Bengaluru South MP, told *The Hindu* that this is "yet another instance that underscores how the Congress government is systematically destroying public transport in Bengaluru." "The fact that it was BMRCL that proposed a 105% fare hike for the metro further exposes the intent of the Central government to stop its Shadow Cash Support for metro. The shadow cash support is meant to keep metro commute affordable for the common man. Instead, we have now arrived at a situation where affordability has sharply declined. This has directly led to a steep drop in metro ridership by 13% after the fare hike was announced."

"From steep hikes in property tax, milk prices, electricity, stamp duty, excise, to the base fare of buses and metro, the Siddaramaiah government is using the common man's money to fund their guarantees," he added.

The Hindu tried reaching Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar for his response, but did not get any. BMRCL Managing Director Ravishankar J. was also not available for comment.

Two additional ramps of the Silk Board flyover to be completed by December

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru's notorious Silk Board junction is set to witness a major traffic relief by December, with Afcons Infrastructure announcing that two additional ramps of the flyover will be completed by then. Once operational, these ramps will allow commuters to bypass the junction entirely, ensuring "absolute zero wait time," according to D. Murugadasan, Executive Vice-President at Afcons.

Afcons, in a release, stated that it is constructing five ramps as part of its metro and road-widening contract. Three ramps of double decker flyover were opened last year, but traffic bottlenecks persisted. The final two ramps, including Ramp D, the tallest at 28 metres and built at the fifth level above existing flyovers and metro lines, are expected to bring substantial relief, the release stated.

"The works form part of the 9.8 km elevated section of the Bengaluru Metro's Blue Line from Silk Board to K.R. Puram. Despite construction challenges and limited working hours between midnight and 6 a.m., Afcons has committed to meeting the December deadline," it said.

Metro facilitates organ transport for second time

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

After a successful organ transport in August for the first time, Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) has once again facilitated the movement of a human organ. On Thursday, a live human heart arranged by Sparsh Hospital was transported via Namma Metro from Yeshwanthpur station to South End Circle station en route to Apollo Hospital.

According to BMRCL, the transport operation commenced at 11.01 p.m. and concluded at 11.21 p.m. covering seven stations in just 20 minutes. The BMRCL stated that the heart was carried inside Train ID 12, Train Set 29, accompanied by the hospital's medical team. To ensure smooth movement, the Assistant Security Officer coordinated with the Sparsh team and metro security personnel, making special arrangements to avoid delays and provide a safe corridor for the critical transfer.

A live human heart arranged by Sparsh Hospital was transported via metro from Yeshwanthpur station to South End Circle station en route to Apollo Hospital onThursday.

In August, for the first time, Namma Metro had successfully facilitated the transportation of an organ. A donated human liver, meant for transplantation, was transported from Vydehi Hospital at Whitefield to Sparsh Hospital at R.R. Nagar. The operation was executed using a combination of ambulance and metro, significantly reducing travel time during peak traffic hours.

Minister invites U.K. univeristy to establish campus in city

Jayanth R.
LONDON

Higher Education Minister M.C. Sudhakar invited the Wolverhampton University of United Kingdom (U.K.) to establish their campus in Bengaluru.

During the discussion of 'Beyond Futures - Festival of Research and Innovation' at Wolverhampton University, he said, "We have already established Wolverhampton-Bengaluru Research and Innovation Centre (WBC), a joint initiative of the University of Wolverhampton and Bengaluru City University (BCU). We already have Imperial College of London in Bengaluru and Liverpool University has signed memorandum of understanding (MoU) to establish a campus. Now, we invite Wolverhampton to establish its campus in Bengaluru. This could strengthen the quality education in Karnataka." Further, the Minister stated that the Bangalore University (BU) has already signed an MoU with Wolverhampton University. "Our association with the university started last year and we have progressed a lot. Now, we want to have a collaboration for PhD programmes. If the Wolverhampton University is ready for student exchange, we can even ask Karnataka government to sponsor them as many of our students from economically weaker sections," he added.

UHS like the NHS

The Karnataka government is also planning to implement Universal Health Service in line with the National Health Service (NHS) by U.K. government where the health service is completely free.

During the discussion with NHS representatives, Minister for Medical Education Sharan Prakash Patil requested a study by NHS on Karnataka's health system. "Karnataka has tried implementing free health care for everyone, but somehow it did not work out. Now, if NHS conducts a study about how to implement it in the Karnataka health system, it will help us to migrate from our system to universal health system in next 10 years," he said.

Responding to the request, Tonny Veenith, professor, University of Wolverhampton and Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust, said, "Yes, it's absolutely possible, we can have a discussion on this. There is so much that we can learn and implement together."

Exhibition inaugurated at JNP

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Jawaharlal Nehru Planetarium (JNP), Bengaluru, will be organising a three day 'Science In Action' exhibition at its premises.

The three day event which was inaugurated on Friday.

JNP said that around 80 students from from Bengaluru region Shidlaghatta, and Chickballapura district are participating.

The Science in Action exhibition is held twice a year at JNP.

Students and the general public can visit this exhibition, which is being held till September 14 at the U.R. Rao Bhavana of the JNP, from 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Entry to the exhibition is free.

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Fractured crown, poisoned chalice? Khalid is the man for the job

Since taking over as head coach of the Indian football team, the 48-year-old has shown an ability to adapt and improvise in challenging circumstances. In club football, he excelled at taking lesser-fancied teams to heady heights. The current national side is right up his alley

PHOTO: K MURALI KUMAR

Anirudh Velamuri

Resolute, defensively solid, substance over style, and making the most of every opportunity – that is how Khalid Jamil played his football and that is also how his Indian team has gone about business so far.

Khalid, who was born in Kuwait and moved to India after Iraq's invasion of the West Asian country, was a naturally gifted player and did not take long to attract the attention of Kolkata giants Mohun Bagan and East Bengal.

Strength of conviction

However, being a devout Muslim, he rejected both teams due to their sponsorship deals with the United Breweries Group. It is that strength of his convictions that has helped the former India midfielder progress from an injury-riddled playing career to multiple successful managerial stints at clubs across the country.

Since taking over as the Indian head coach, Khalid has shown an ability to adapt and improvise, rather than complain and throw in the towel. When Mohun Bagan Super Giant refused to release seven players for India's CAFA Nations Cup campaign, he expressed disappointment but swiftly moved on from the issue.

The many foreign coaches who preceded him – Wim Koevermans, Stephen Constantine, Igor Stimac and Manolo Marquez, the most recent – ran Sunil Chhetri into the ground, citing a lack of adequate attacking firepower in the country. Khalid, however, decided against calling up the veteran and chose to test other players in competitive settings without Chhetri's larger-than-life shadow looming over them from the bench.

Yes, Irfan Yadwad failed to deliver as the No. 9. So did Vikram Partap Singh, Ashique Kuruniyan, Lallianzuala Chhangte, Manvir Singh and Naorem Mahesh when tasked with leading the line. Yes, 41-year-old Chhetri might lead the Blue Tigers against Singapore in the AFC Asian Cup qualifiers on October 9. But Khalid has shown that he is willing to back the right player, giving Indian strikers across clubs the sort of confidence boost that has been missing in recent years.

Mohammedan SC head coach Mehrajuddin Wadoo, who has crossed paths with Khalid in his playing days, believes that the 48-year-old's knowledge of the country's football landscape puts him in good standing as the India head coach.

"Khalid's experience in the country, both as a player and coach, is helping the Indian footballers to grow because he understands Indian football. It is always an advantage for players when you have an Indian coach. Because of the communication and because of the understanding of Indian football," he told *The Hindu*.

"Foreign coaches, when they come to the national team or when they come to India, they take time to understand the philosophy, the culture and the football. But for an Indian coach, it is already there by default. Someone like Khalid has that, since he has been in the system from his childhood."

> Do not listen to criticism about his style of play. It is nonsense. Only a coach knows what the strengths and weaknesses of his players are, and a good coach will ensure that opponents do not exploit those weaknesses
>
> **SYED NAYEEMUDDIN**
> Dronacharya awardee

Another former India international, who wished to remain anonymous, gave an insight into how Khalid has gone about his job so far: "He has been speaking with players one-on-one, personally guiding them in various things, and has even taken a hands-on approach to his coaching sessions. Players have loved that, as of now."

Maximising defence

Where successive coaches grappled with the idea of getting results while playing easy-on-the-eye football, Khalid has been more pragmatic. Knowing that India was the third-lowest-ranked side at the CAFA Nations Cup, the team set up in a way that maximised its defensive strengths, one of the hallmarks of his teams over the years.

PHOTO: FOCUS SPORTS / ISL

Khalid even took a leaf out of Rory Delap's playbook, utilising Rahul Bheke and Muhammed Uvais' athletic abilities to effortlessly make accurate long throws. The result? All three goals scored under him have come either directly from them or in the phases of play immediately after.

India has gone from struggling to compete against better-ranked teams to finding ways to go toe-to-toe with them – host Tajikistan and Oman, sitting 27 and 54 places above India, respectively, were both sent packing during a bronze-winning campaign.

Former India coach Syed Nayeemuddin, who gave Khalid his national team debut in 1998, recalled how he was always eager to learn and get better. The 81-year-old stated that while Khalid was not among the most flashy of players he trained over the years, he was among the hardest working and most disciplined – qualities Nayeemuddin believes have helped him build a successful coaching career.

"I saw him playing in Bombay and he immediately caught my eye. After coming into the national squad, he was very, very disciplined, worked hard, always arrived well before time and was disciplined, both on and off the field. He played real top-class football, respected everyone, be it coaches or his teammates, or even opponents. And he has been the same as a coach," the Dronacharya awardee said.

Nayeemuddin said Khalid showed early signs of being a good leader and backed him to achieve success on the global stage, even if football purists scoff at his methods.

"Do not listen to criticism about his style of play. It is nonsense. Everyone sitting at home can easily talk. It is easy to comment. Only a coach knows what the strengths and weaknesses of his players are, and a good coach will ensure that opponents do not exploit those weaknesses," Nayeemuddin emphasised.

> Khalid's experience in the country, both as a player and coach, is helping the Indian footballers to grow because he understands Indian football
>
> **MEHRAJUDDIN WADOO**
> Mohammedan SC head coach

"To play stylish football, you need at least three to five years. Players cannot turn over a new leaf overnight. And to be in the role for that long, you need results first."

His football might not be everyone's cup of tea, but for Khalid, a team's success is built on defensive solidity. "I tell my players to focus on defending, stay tight man-to-man, and maintain their shape. Beyond that, they have the freedom to play their natural game," he said at a press conference.

New dawn

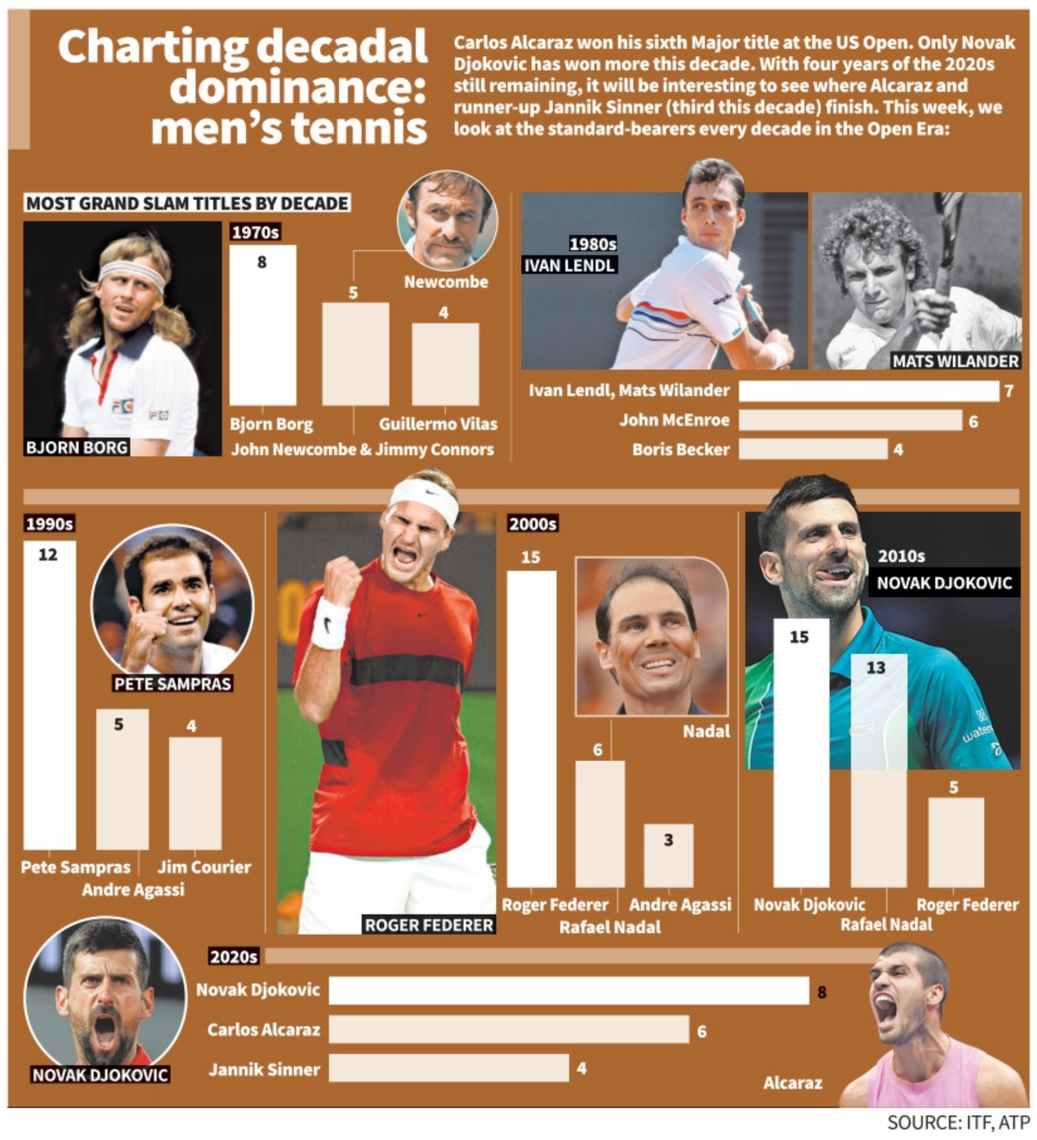
Under Constantine, while India broke into the top 100 of the FIFA rankings and qualified for the Asian Cup, there was widespread criticism for his counter-attacking style. Under Stimac, India lacked a clear tactical plan and effective in-game management. Under Marquez, India barely got going, with just one win in eight games. His expansive style, which took FC Goa to a Super Cup title and the AFC Champions League Two, failed to translate to international football.

Under all of them, however, there has been criticism of the way the All India Football Federation (AIFF) functioned, to varying degrees, and the quality of players at their disposal.

And that brings us to Khalid, wearing what many consider a fractured crown and holding a poisoned chalice. In his years in club football, he excelled at taking lesser-fancied, low-budget teams to heady heights, be it Mumbai FC's survival, Aizawl FC's fairytale I-League triumph, or North-East United FC and Jamshedpur FC's playoff runs in the Indian Super League (ISL). The current Indian side is right up his wheelhouse.

He might not be the most gifted coach around, but Khalid is just about the right coach for India. At a time when the stitches have begun to show, he has breathed life into a gasping nation that has long been craving stability and success.

GAME THEORY



PICTURE THIS

GETTY IMAGES

Spring, roll

In this photograph, two athletes compete in the women's synchronised trampoline gymnastics event at the recent World Games in Chengdu, China.

American gymnast George Nissen is credited with developing the idea of trampolining in the 1930s when he observed trapeze acrobats performing tricks while bouncing off safety nets.

Nissen reportedly built the first prototype trampoline — a rectangular canvas bed of synthetic fabric, attached to a frame with steel springs.

Initially used as training equipment for astronauts and athletes, trampolining soon became popular in its own right. The first trampoline world championships were organised in London in 1964 and the sport joined the International Gymnastics Federation 35 years later. Trampolining first appeared in the Olympics at Sydney 2000.

In synchronised trampolining, two athletes perform exactly the same routine simultaneously on two adjacent trampolines. Each is scored, as if they were competing individually, based on difficulty, execution and air-time.

Additional judges score the pair for synchronisation.

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A BG-BGE

200 tourists stranded in Kathmandu return home

'We were in a complete information vacuum and had no idea when the flights would restart'

Rishita Khanna
BENGALURU

The travellers, most from Bengaluru and surrounding parts of the State, were in limbo after operations at Nepal's Tribhuvan International Airport were suspended earlier this week. PTI

Relief finally came for nearly 200 tourists from the State stranded in Kathmandu when Nepal Airlines stepped in on Thursday, arranging a special Airbus A-320 flight directly to Bengaluru free of cost for passengers who had spent nearly three tense days in the Nepal capital.

The travellers, most from Bengaluru and surrounding parts of Karnataka, along with a few from Mumbai and Delhi, had been in limbo after operations at Tribhuvan International Airport were suspended earlier this week. With no direct flights available to Bengaluru, many were unsure when or how they would return. Travellers, however, said that the Karnataka government's support during the situation was "minimal".

"Those who had booked tickets on Air India flights on Thursday were unable to reach the airport at all, as no cabs or public transport were running. We were in a complete information vacuum. The internet was patchy, officials weren't saying anything, and we had no idea when flights would restart. Many of us kept walking to the airport just to check if operations had begun," a Bengaluru resident, who returned last evening but wished to remain anonymous, said.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Rajani Masaki, another passenger from the city, recalled chaotic scenes inside the Kathmandu airport as nearly 1,000 people crammed into the terminal, waiting for information.

She added that for nearly the last two days, more than 10 to 15 people shared rooms and any available space inside bars, lodges, and restaurants.

"Shops, pharmacies, and even cab services remained closed for over four days. Tourists scrambled for food, drinking water, and medicines, with all taking refuge in shuttered restaurants and bars that offered spare rooms. Throughout these days, more than 10 people shared a single cramped room," Ms. Masaki said.

While the Centre had arranged flights on Wednesday and Thursday between New Delhi and Kathmandu, the Karnataka government facilitated onward travel only for those who were flown first to the capital.

Many of the tourists in Kathmandu, however, said that the State's support and communication could have improved their situation. Travellers acknowledged Nepal Airlines' decision to waive fares and arrange a direct service to Bengaluru as a "lifeline".

Another batch of 27 passengers from Bengaluru, still in Kathmandu, are expected to be flown home on Saturday aboard a Nepal-based flight.

School bus tilts after wheels get stuck in pothole

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The state of the school bus on the Balagere–Panathur Road in Bengaluru on Friday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The wheels of a school bus ferrying nearly 20 children got stuck in a pothole on the Balagere-Panathur Road on Friday around 8 a.m. The children had to be rescued through the emergency exit of the bus. They were stranded on the muddy roadside before being taken to safety by traffic police, passers-by, and another bus driver.

Local residents told *The Hindu* that the bus tilted after its wheels sank into a deep pothole filled with rainwater. The children were pulled out one by one and made to wait on the slushy stretch until traffic police, bystanders, and the driver of another bus came to assist. Some of the children were then ferried in the other bus, while others were taken to school by residents.

Residents recalled filing repeated complaints about potholes, incomplete drains, and flooding along the stretch. According to them, even after Chief Minister Siddaramaiah inspected the road earlier this year, no lasting solution was taken up. They also alleged that even in May, when the Chief Minister visited, nearby stretches were quickly patched up, while most locals who faced the real problem were locked inside a school and prevented from voicing their concerns.

"The drains dug along the road remain incomplete, with no proper outflow towards the 'rajakaluve' (storm water drain). Potholes appear after every downpour, and water stagnates at these spots. It is impossible to know if it is just a puddle or a deep ditch.

Nearly 20 children, who were inside the bus, had to be rescued through the emergency exit

Whenever we question civic authorities or give suggestions, they insist that they know how to do their job," said Pavithra Holla, a local resident.

Locals lamented that the neglect of infrastructure needs in the city's outer areas, which houses major IT companies, is shocking.

Sudeep, another resident and a member of Namma Balagere, said that repair works on drains in the area had started about 10 days ago.

Two days back, the road was suddenly made one-way, without clear prior information, he stated. "The bus driver thought that water had accumulated on the road, but the water was hiding a deep trench. Four-wheelers skid every day, and people on two-wheelers cannot ride safely here," he added.

After the incident, parents also wrote to the respective schools to instruct bus drivers to drive safely. They also suggested that schools escalate the issue with civic authorities to ensure urgent action to make the road safe for commuters.

Preventive measures

Lokhande Snehal Sudhakar, Additional Commissioner, Bengaluru East Corporation, said that authorities will work on preventive measures to ensure such incidents do not occur again.

In August, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar had acknowledged that 10,000 potholes had been identified and temporary and permanent solutions were being taken up.

In a statement later, officials of the Bengaluru East Corporation shifted the responsibility onto the driver, stating that the mishap was caused by rash driving and not due to bad roads. "This was a case of negligence on the part of the driver, but we are expediting the drainage and road safety works in the area to prevent such incidents," a corporation officer said.

Car near DKS' house: Case booked

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The city police have registered a case after allegedly discovering a car with a faulty number plate parked near the residence of Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar in Sadashivanagar here on September 7.

The vehicle, initially believed to belong to a man named Deepak, was later confirmed to be owned by A. Manjunath, former Magadi MLA, according to an investigating officer in the case. "We have issued a notice to the owner for questioning, but he has not appeared before us yet," the officer told *The Hindu*.

FIR registered

As per an FIR filed by Manu M., a police constable deployed for traffic management near Mr. Shivakumar's house in Sadashivanagar, he noticed the white car parked by the 18th cross on September 7. As the car was causing traffic disruption, he decided to contact the owner to get it cleared from the place.

He said that he used the Mobile Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and System app to check the details of the car's owner using the registration number.

When he contacted the listed number, a person named Deepak answered and claimed his car was parked in his own parking area. Suspicious, the constable examined the number plate closely and discovered another plate hidden behind it.

Houses razed

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Several houses near Rayasandra Lake in Doddanagamangala, on the southeastern outskirts of Bengaluru, were demolished on Friday on grounds of encroachment.

Jagadeesha G., Deputy Commissioner of Bengaluru Urban, stated that residents had encroached upon the lake area by submitting forged documents, which led to the clearance drive.

"Since I assumed charge as Deputy Commissioner of Bengaluru Urban, nearly 300 acres of encroached government land have been reclaimed. Even here, people had occupied the lake area using fake documents," Mr. Jagadeesha said.

However, residents accused the government of targeting innocent people. "We have been paying taxes on our properties for years. If these lands were encroached, why did the authorities continue to collect taxes from us?" questioned residents, who staged protests against the drive carried out.

ASTraM app and the 'Gundi Gamana' to be integrated to monitor potholes, flooding

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Officials of all the five newly formed corporations under the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) will be trained to use the ASTraM app developed by the Bengaluru Traffic Police for real-time monitoring of potholes and flooding in the city.

Tushar Giri Nath, Additional Chief Secretary of the Urban Development Department (UDD), noted that the ASTraM app and the 'Gundi Gamana' must be integrated for better monitoring of potholes and spots prone to flooding, during a multi-department meeting held in Malleswaram on Friday.

The Traffic Police Department recently identified 4,822 potholes across the city, of which only 1,861 have been filled.

2,961 potholes

Mr. Nath ordered the filling of the remaining 2,961 potholes at the earliest, with senior officers directed to personally inspect the repairs.

He mentioned that flooding was another concern, with 137 vulnerable locations identified by the Traffic Police. While problems at 56 locations have already been addressed, Mr. Nath directed officials to resolve the remaining 81 spots and provide a permanent solution to ensure that rainwater does not stagnate on roads.

He further noted that contractors working on white-topping and black-topping projects across the GBA limits must be held responsible for maintaining roads in good condition.

Mr. Nath emphasised that all roads undergoing white-topping and black-topping must remain pothole-free and suitable for smooth traffic movement.

"Currently, black-topping work is being undertaken on 400 km of roads, while white-topping is in progress on 150 km of roads, with Bengaluru having a total of 1,681 km of arterial and sub-arterial roads," Mr. Nath said.

Car goes up in flames near CM's residence

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A quick-thinking driver averted a major fire accident on Friday after noticing smoke billowing from the engine of the car he was driving on Windsor Manor bridge, about 200 m from the official residence of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

The petrol car, went up in flames at the spot, just off the main road. The police personnel stationed at the junction spotted the fire and immediately alerted the Fire Department.

A Fire Department officer told *The Hindu* that they received a call around 11.21 a.m. and managed to contain the blaze by 11.50 a.m.

The driver, Venkatesh, was ferrying his employer, Sachin, from Koramangala to the sub-registrar's office at Ganganagar when the incident occured.

According to the officer, Mr. Venkatesh alerted the owner, following which, the duo got out of the vehicle. When the driver opened the bonnet to check the source of the smoke, the car suddenly went up in flames, the officer said.

Police suspect a minor short circuit may have triggered the blaze, though no conclusive evidence has been found. A fire report has been filed, and an investigation is under way.

Rise in demand for electronics

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

E-commerce company Flipkart has reported recording multi-fold growth in demand for electronics ahead of the festive season. AI-enabled laptops and desktops, gaming consoles, digital cameras, smart wearables, smart home solutions, and even two-wheelers have been among the products witnessing high demand.

As per the company, in the months between June and August, laptops and desktops witnessed 1.4 times growth in metro markets as compared to the period between March and May.

Timings
BENGALURU

SATURDAY, SEP. 13		
RISE	06:09	SET 18:22
RISE	22:59	SET 11:23
SUNDAY, SEP. 14		
RISE	06:09	SET 18:21
RISE	24:00	SET 12:27
MONDAY, SEP. 15		
RISE	06:09	SET 18:21
RISE	00:00	SET 13:29

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	29	23
Mysuru	29	20
Bengaluru	26	20

Bengaluru Today
28°C The weather will be comfortable. Night will be pleasant. Spell of moderate to heavy rain and thundershower will occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
29°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm. Spell of light to moderate rain and thundershower to occur.

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THE HINDU
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SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice No.Y-E-29-2025-26-43
Dated: 03-09-2025
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Description of work	Approx. Value
OHE Modification for Platfom extension works at Masarahalli.	Rs. 78,06,456.57

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 25-09-2025
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer
PUB/437/AAF/PRB/SWR/2025-26 **TR / Mysuru**
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRAILWAYHQ | sw_railways

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Publication of E-TENDER NOTICE No. B/TRD.2025-26/14 Dt: 06.09.2025
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender for the following work.

Item of work	Approx.Value
[i] OHE modification required for Construction of Track Machine siding at Chikkabanavara, Yediyuru, Shravanabelagola and Nelamangala Rd station length of 420m **[ii]** OHE modification in connection with the proposed extension of platform BG Nagar PF-1&2 by 16 mtr, Hirisave PF-1, 2&3 by 20 mtr, Shravanabelagola PF-1, PF-2&3 by 138m each, Channarayapattana PF-1, 2&3 by 140 mtr and compound wall at Channarayapattana station in Assistant Divisional Engineer /Kunigal subdivision. **[iii]** Pending works electrification of Chikkabanavara -Hassan (Gr296) sections of Bengaluru division. **[iv]** TRD works in connection with Engineering track works in Chikkabanavara-Hassan Section. **Period of completion 12 Months**	Rs.1,56,83,153.85/-

Last date for Submission of bids :
Upto 15.00 hrs on 29.09.2025
For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**
Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/TRD, Bengaluru
PUB/448/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the **UTS** Moblie App from **Google Play Store** for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | @SWRAILWAYHQ | @sw_railways

CITY CORPORATION VIJAYAPUR
No:CCV/PWD/EE/DMA/TND/E-proc/2025-26 Dated:12.09.2025
KPP PORTAL NOTIFICATION
Executive Engineer, City Corporation Vijayapur invites tenders from eligible tenders registered the 1) 10 works under Amrut 2.0 Fund and 2) 01 works under Corporation Fund 2025-26. Tenders are called in standard tender document through E-procurement portal. For further details visit online web site **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**.
Note: Tender Corrigendum and Addendum will be issued in kppp.karnataka.gov.in portal
1) Last date for Tender submission:29.09.2025
Sd/- Executive Engineer, City Corporation, Vijayapur
ವಾಸಾಸಂ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/334/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public are hereby informed that my client is intending to Purchase the properties more fully described in the Schedule hereunder from its present owner being **Sri. T.S. Bhoopal, S/o. B.V. Sadashivaiah** who has represented that he has a clear and marketable title to the same. Any person/s financial institutions, statutory authorities or any other persons/s representing any private or public companies or any partnership firm or any society who claim any right, title or interest of any nature in or any lien, charge or enforceable right in relation to the Schedule Property and/or has any objections of any nature to the aforesaid transaction should lodge such claim and/or objections in writing to the undersigned within **Seven (7) days** from the date of issue of this notice with documentary evidence failing which it will be presumed that no valid claims or objections subsist and my client would proceed to complete the transaction with the present owner thereof subject to compliance with other statutory and legal formalities.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ITEM NO.1:
All that piece and parcel of agricultural land bearing Sy.No.80/11, measuring 1 Acre 18 Guntas (earlier forming portion of land in Sy.No.80) of Melekattiganuru Village, Sompura Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on:-
East by : Lands bearing Sy. Nos. 81/1B1 and 81/1B2 belonging to Rangamuniyappa and Gangarangappa (earlier land belonged to Raghavaiah).
West by : Land belonging to Sri. Jagadish (presently land bearing Sy.No. 79/6).
North by : Land bearing Sy. Nos. 80/9 & 80/10 (earlier land belonged to Ammaiah).
South by : Land bearing Sy.No.80/12 belonging to the Seller. (earlier land belonged to Rangalakshmamma).

ITEM NO.2:
All that piece and parcel of agricultural land bearing Sy.No.80/12, measuring 37 Guntas, (earlier forming portion of land in Sy.No.80) of Melekattiganuru Village, Sompura Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on:-
East by : Land bearing Sy. Nos. 81/1C belonging to Ramachandraiaha.
West by : Land bearing Sy.No.79/6 belonging to Sri.Jagadish
North by : Land bearing Sy.No.80/11 belonging to the Seller (earlier land belonged to Jayalakshmamma).
South by : Land bearing Sy. Nos. 80/13 and 80/14 (earlier belonged to Venkataramanaiaha).

B. R. Ravi Kumar
Advocates
No.537, 10th 'B' Cross, Yelahanka New Town, **Bangalore - 560 064**

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform to the General Public that our client intends to purchase 'Schedule Property' from **Kumari Tara Siddarth Rao** D/o Shri. Siddarth Narayan, Grand-daughter of Smt. Vanitha Narayan, being minor rep. by her father and natural guardian Shri. Siddarth Narayan.
Any person/s, Society/s, Association/s, Government Authority/s, Financial Institution/s, Bank/s, Judicial Authorities asserting any right, title, interest or claim in the Schedule Property or any part thereof in any manner or having any claim against the schedule property or the Documents thereof or objecting to such sale in favour of our client should write or contact us **within 07 days** from the date of issuance of this public notice, with all documentary proof on which they are basing and asserting their rights with regard to the Schedule Property or any part thereof, after which period, our client shall proceed on the basis that there are no claims of whatsoever nature with regard to the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY
All that piece and Parcel of the Residential Site bearing No.2011 and Yelahanka City Municipal Council Katha No.1010/2011, BBMP Katha No.26/2011, BBMP EPID No.1194106007, measuring East to West: 20.20 +20.80/2 Meters and North to South: 19.20 Meters, in all measuring 412.80 Sq. Meters, situated at Yelahanka New Town, Sector-B Extension, Yelahanka Taluk, Bangalore Urban District and all civic amenities provided to the Schedule Property and including all rights water facilities and bounded on: **East by:** Road, **West by:** Site No.2012, **North by:** Road, **South by:** Site No.2010.
Date: 13.09.2025, Place: Bengaluru
Sd/- **M/S A.K. VASANTH & ASSOCIATES, A.K. VASANTH, D.V. GIRISH, UMESHA .A, ADVOCATES**
No. 201 & 202, 2nd Floor, Jayam Shopping Centre, Sampige Road (B/w 7th and 8th Cross), Malleswaram, Bangalore- 560 003.

इचलकरंजी महानगरपालिका, इचलकरंजी
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पाणी पुरवठा विभागाकडील महाराष्ट्र सुवर्ण जयंती नगरोत्थान महाभियान अंतर्गत जाहिर ई निविदा क्रं.१२/२०२५-२६ www.mahatenders.gov.in या संकेतस्थळावर दि. १३/०९/२०२५ रोजी स. ११.०० वाजले पासून प्रसिध्द करणेत येत आहे.
सविस्तर जाहिरात www.mahatenders.gov.in या संकेतस्थळावर उपलब्ध आहे.
सही/–
अति. आयुक्त
इचलकरंजी महानगरपालिका

Bagalkot University
(State Public University of Govt. of Karnataka)
Mudhol Road, Jamkhandi-587301, Dist.Bagalkote
Main ID: bgkujkd@gmail.com
Website: https://bgku.karnataka.gov.in ಕುಲಸಚಿವರ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ Tel.No.(08353) 295123
BGKUJ/RO/2025-26/732 **PRESS NOTE** Date:12.09.2025
A) Retender Notification (Through E-Procurement):-
Registrar, Bagalkot University, Jamkhandi invites Retender through e-procurement for Networking to Bagalkot University, Jamkhandi from **13/09/2025.** Desired eligible suppliers/Agency may apply before **03/10/2026** by **5.00** PM through **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**. For further information kindly visit University website **https://bgku.karnataka.gov.in** or the Estate office at University.
B)Tender Notification (Through E-Procurement):-
Registrar, Bagalkot University, Jamkhandi invites Tender through e-procurement for ALL-IN-ONE Desktop Computer to Bagalkot University, Jamkhandi from**13/09/2025**. Desired eligible suppliers/Agency may apply before **06/10/2025** by **5.00 PM** through **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**. For further information kindly visit University website **https://bgku.karnataka.gov.in** or the Estate office at University.
Sd/-
Registrar
Bagalkot University,Jamkhandi

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PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME
I, FAIROZ Pasha, S/o Bakshu Sab, R/o No.38/2, Bewi Majjid Road, Jolly Mohalla, Bangalore South, Bengaluru-560053 have changed my name to Fairoz vide affidavit dt: 12.09.2025 sworn before Notary Ramachandrappa.C, B'luru

E-mail : info@telecomhousing.org Website : www.telecomhousing.org Regd. No. ARB 1/B/Regn/3176/74-75
TELECOM EMPLOYEES' CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING SOCIETY LIMITED
No. 43, "Belaku", Railway Parallel Road, Kumara Park (West), Bengaluru-560 020. Ph. 080-2346 4655 / 2346 4555
45th ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING NOTICE
It is hereby notified that the 45th Annual General Body Meeting of the Society for the year 2024-25 will be held on Sunday the **21st September 2025 at 02.00 PM** at Bunts Sangha Auditorium, No.324, Bunts Sangha complex, Chord Road, Vijaya Nagar, Bengaluru - 560040. (Near Attiguppe Metro Station) Sri G. Babu, President of the Society will preside. All the Members and Associate Members are requested to kindly attend meeting. Notice is already sent by post.
For and on behalf of the Board of Management
Sd/- Secretary
Telecom Employees' Co-Operative Housing Society Limited, Bengaluru-560020
Place: Bengaluru
Date: 12.09.2025

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ISSN 0971 - 751X

BSWML steps up plastic-free drive, seizes 24.57 tonnes of single-use plastic

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a bid to make the city plastic-free, the Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited (BSWML) has planned to raid plastic manufacturers and wholesale traders five days a week, said Karee Gowda, Chief Executive Officer, BSWML.

Speaking at a press conference on Friday, Mr. Gowda said that 27 teams have been formed under the leadership of assistant general managers to conduct regular checks. Additionally, at the ward level, marshals and junior health inspectors have been directed to carry out daily inspections and levy a minimum fine of ₹2,000, he said. "We have started such checks from September 3, which will continue to ensure reduction in single-use plastic," Mr. Gowda added.

Since the launch of the drive on September 3, BSWML has collected ₹19.66 lakh in fines from 281 wholesale traders and ₹18.41 lakh from 2,842 retail traders. The value of seized plastic is estimated at ₹49.14 lakh. In total, BSWML has seized 24.57 tonnes of single-use plastic and imposed fines totalling ₹38.07 lakh since September 3.

Mr. Gowda urged citizens to avoid plastic bags, and instead carry cloth or paper alternatives. Traders, too, have been told to switch to eco-friendly packaging to protect public health and curb pollution.

He added that BSWML has strengthened grievance redressal mechanisms, while pointing out that residents can now file complaints 24/7 through a digital platform, the Namma Bengaluru app, the toll-free helpline 1533, or the WhatsApp number 9448197197.

In August alone, 1,483 complaints related to waste and blackspots were received, with 99% being resolved; in September, 423 of the 515 complaints have been addressed, Mr. Gowda said.

To improve waste collection, auto-tipper vehicle schedules were revised.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Publication of E-TENDER NOTICE No. B/TRD.2025-26/17 Dt: 06.09.2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender for the following work.

Item of work	Approx.Value
[i]SWR-Bengaluru	Rs.1,38,91,597.02/-

Division-OHE modifications in connection with provision of 01 additional loop line on Road-1 side at Nidavanda station [ii] OHE modifications in connection with proposed Road Under Bridge in lieu of Level Crossing No.28 at km 49/200-300 between Nidavanda-Hirehalli stations (double track) with U-type retaining wall of 85m on both side and approach road of 135mts

Period of Completion : 11 Months

Last date for Submission of bids : **Upto 15.00 hrs on 29.09.2025**

For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/TRD, Bengaluru

PUB/449/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26

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South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | @SWRAILWAYHQ | @sw_railways

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT my client has negotiated with **Sri. SANDEEP MENON**, son of Late Sri. R. Ravindranath and Late Smt. Amruta Ravindranath, residing at No. 365, 14th Cross, Sadashivanagar, Bengaluru – 560080, who has represented that he is the absolute owner of the Schedule Property described below, and my client has agreed to purchase the said Schedule Property.

As a cautionary measure, my client hereby calls upon all person(s) or entity(ies) claiming or having any claim, right, title, interest, charge, lien, or encumbrance of any nature whatsoever over the Schedule Property or any part thereof, whether by way of inheritance, mortgage, sale, conveyance, MOU, agreement to sell, transfer, lease, tenancy, license, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, gift, exchange, possession, adverse possession, or otherwise howsoever, to submit such claims in writing, along with documentary proof, to the undersigned **within 10 (ten) days** from the date of publication of this notice.

If no such claim is received within the stipulated period, it shall be conclusively presumed that there are no claims or objections whatsoever, and my client shall proceed to register the Sale Deed in respect of the Schedule Property without any further reference to such claims, and any such claim, if made thereafter, shall be deemed to have been waived.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing New EPID No. 6482640203, Old Old PID No 99-13-9, Old Corporation No 365/9, Site No. 365, which was originally formed by the erstwhile City Improvement Trust situated at Upper Palace Orchards, 14th Cross, Sadashivanagar, Ward No 35, Aramane Nagar,Bengaluru 560080, , measuring East to West 84 feet and North to South 60 feet and in totally measuring 5040 Sq feet and bounded on: **East by:** Road; **West by:** Site No 375; **North by:** Road; **South by:** Site No 364.

Dated this 5th day of September 2025

AMBRISH B N, Advocate
4708, 7th Floor, High Point- IV
Palace Road, Bengaluru 560001
Ph. No.: 9845594939.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, DIVISION, CHITRADURGA

No.EE:PWD:CTA:JE-1,AE-1,2:Tender-28:2025-26 Dated:- 12.09.2025

SHOR TERM E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited from registered Contractors in KPWD for the following work through KPPP Portal as per standard tender documents rules.

Name of work:- Two cover System :- Head of Account 5054-04-337-0-01-154 MDR Improvements:- (1) Improvements and Asphalting to road Aimangala-Horakedevapura via Dasannanamalige from Ch 1.00 to 3.50km and 6.00 to 10.00km (in selected reaches) in Hiriyur Taluk (Working Ch 1.00 to 2.00 Km, 2.90 to 3.05 km, 6.00 to 8.40 km and 9.25 to 9.75 km) (WI.19324)/Call-5 **Estimate Cost Rs. in Lakhs:-**250.00 **(2)** Improvements to Konasagara - Udevu MDR to SH - 65 via Chowdipura, Thipperidraswamy temple, Kondlahalli, Marammanahalli in Molakalmuru Taluk. Km 11.90 to 15.30 (working Chainage Km 11.90 to 14.095) (W.I.23250) **Estimate Cost Rs. in Lakhs:-**200.00 **(3)** Improvements to Kolalu Village to Goujanahalli Road In selected Reaches in Holalkere Taluk(Segehatti (SH-243) connecting to Kolalu cross via Kunikere, birenahalli, gownahalli Working chainage 18.37 to 19.62 Km) (W.I. 26592) **Estimate Cost Rs. in Lakhs:-**100.00

Sl. No. 1 Tender dates are as mentioned below: Late Date & time for Tender Queries/ Clarifications 26-09-2025 Time: 17.30 Last Date & time for receipt of tenders 29-09-2025 Time: 16.00 Date & time for opening of Technical Bid 30-09-2025 Time: 16.15 Date & time for opening of Financial Bid 04-10-2025 Time: 11.00

Sl. No. 2 & 3 Tenders dates are as mentioned below: Late Date & time for Tender Queries/ Clarifications 19-09-2025 Time: 17.30 Last Date & time for receipt of tenders 20-09-2025 Time: 16.00 Date & time for opening of Technical Bid 22-09-2025 Time: 16.15 Date & time for opening of Financial Bid 25-09-2025 Time: 11.00 Further details can be obtained from this office and H.P. Company helpline Numbers 080-25501216 and 080-25501227.

DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/368/2025-26 **Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD, Chitradurga.**

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD

(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)

 # 49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road Bengaluru - 560 001. Phone No. 080-22265383 website: www.kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-E-Service1/663/2025-26 Date: 12.09.2025

Short Term Tender Notification for Selection of Consultants
(Through GoK KPP Portal Only)

KIADB invites Tender from reputed consultants/firms under two cover bid system having vast experience and proven record of similar nature of work for Providing Services for Land Audit including individual plot survey and assets of KIADB industrial areas.

Name of the work: Providing Services for Land Audit including individual plot survey and assets of KIADB industrial areas coming in the Jurisdiction of Executive Engineer-Dharwad (9 Industrial Area Total Extent: 4246.12 Acres).

- **Last date for submission of bids is: 24.09.2025 up to 4.00 PM.**

Applicants may download Bidding Documents from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer-2
KIADB, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/2796/AKAR/2025-26

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public at large on behalf of our client Mrs. K.G. Suma, wife of (Late) Mr. Y.G. Subramanya residing at No. 2, 8th Main, 4th Block, Koramangala Bengaluru 560 034

That property bearing No. 2, 8th Main, 4th Block, Koramangala Bengaluru 560 034 was allotted by Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) to (Late) Mr. Y.G. Subramanya and a Lease Cum Sale Agreement dated 22/3/1973 has been executed by BDA in favour of (Late) Mr. Y.G. Subramanya and the property has been handed over by BDA vide possession certificate bearing No. 5/73-74 dt 29/8/1973, thereafter BDA has executed a Sale Deed dated 24/4/1991 registered on 30/4/1991 in favour of (Late) Mr. Y.G. Subramanya.

That the said (Late) Mr. Y.G. Subramanya constructed a residential house on the said property as per the Building Sanctioned Plan vide No. KML / IV/ 49/ 91-92 dated 9-12-93 issued by BDA. That our client's husband Mr. Y.G. Subramanya during his life time executed a WILL dated 20/3/1994 and registered as Document No. 43/93-94, in Book No. III, volume 43 at Pages 58 to 60 registered in the office of the Sub Registrar, Bengaluru South bequeathing the property to our client.

That our client's husband Mr. Y.G. Subramanya died on 25/1/2011 and by virtue of the said WILL our client became the absolute owner of the property.

That the original Allotment Letter and the Building Sanctioned Plan vide No. KML / IV/ 49/ 91-92 dated 9-12-93 issued by BDA has been misplaced / lost and not traceable. That any person in possession of the above said documents or if found may be pleased to return the original to the undersigned within 15 days of publication of this Public Notice, failing which copy of the same shall be treated as original documents for all purpose thereafter. That our client has registered a lost report with Bangalore City Police vide lost receipt No. 1779583/2025 dated 1/9/2025 in this regard.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that Residential house bearing No. 2, 8th Main, 4th Block, Koramangala Bengaluru 560 034 and bounded on the East by: Site No.3, West by: Site No.1, North by: Site No.15, South by: Road.

(Taji George)
Advocate
M/s. George and Co.; Advocates
No. 608, A-Wing, Mittal Tower,
M. G. Road, Bangalore -560 001
Ph: 080-41107925 / 9448491093
Email: tajigeorge@gmail.com
Bangalore
13-09-2025

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Publication of E-TENDER NOTICE No. B/TRD.2025-26/12 Dt: 06.09.2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender for the following work.

Item of work	Approx.Value
[i] BID-OHE	Rs. 1,31,47,138.73/-

modification in connection with provision of proposed Rd-06(Spur Line of 686m) with shunting neck of 650m towards SVC end duly dismantling existing Goods unloading platform adjacent to Rd-5 **[ii]** OHE modification for Shifting of Y TSS down line PTFE. **Period of completion 10 Months**

Last date for Submission of bids : **Upto 15.00 hrs on 29.09.2025**

For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/TRD, Bengaluru

PUB/447/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26

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SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Publication of E-TENDER NOTICE No. B/TRD.2025-26/18 Dt: 06.09.2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender for the following work.

Item of work	Approx.Value
OHE modifications in	Rs.1,00,69,467.58/-

connection with increasing of sectional speed from 110kmph to 130 kmph in Bengaluru-Jolarpettai section and removal of redundant mast/portal in Bengaluru division.

Period of Completion : 09 Months

Last date for Submission of bids : **Upto 15.00 hrs on 29.09.2025**

For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/TRD, Bengaluru

PUB/450/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER - I/II
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, BENGALURU (DRT -2),
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, Ministry of Finance, Department of Fiancial Services
4th Floor, Telephone House Builiding Rajbhavan Road Bangalore - 560001

Form No. 14 (See Regulation 33(2))
DEMAND NOTICE

Notice under Sections 25 to 28 of the Recovery of Debts Due To Banks and Financial Instituions Act, 1993 and Rule 2 of Second Schedule to the Income Tax Act, 1961.

RC 979/2024 in OA 1401/ 2022

STATE BANK OF INDIA Vs SMT. MANJULA SOMASHEKAR

In the Matter of (CH) **State Bank of India ,** Stressed Assets Recovery Branch, 11/90, 3rd Floor, J. C. Road, Bengaluru - 560 002. Karnataka

.... Certificate Holders

Vs

(CD 1) Smt. Manjula Somashekar, W/o. Late B. Somashkekhar, Proprietrix of M/s. Gaurav Industries, No. 102-B, 2nd Main, Kadabagere Cross, Machohalli Magadi Main Road, Bangalore - 560 091. Karnataka.

Also at: Smt. Manjula Somashekar, W/o. Late B. Somashkekhar,Proprietrix of M/s. Gaurav Industries, No. 15/23, 2nd Main Road, Marenahalli, Saraswathinagar, Bengaluru - 560 040, Karnataka. **... Certificate Debtors**

This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, BENGALURU (DRT 2) in **OA/1401/2022** an amount of **Rs.11007256** (Rupees One Crore Ten Lakhs Seven Thousand Two Hundred and Fifty Six Only) along with pendentellite and future interest @ 14.30% Compound interest monthly w.e.f. 09.09.2022 till realization in full and costs of Rs.113000/- (Rupees One Lakh Thirteen Thousands Only) has become due against you from the Certificate Debtros. 2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts due to Banks abd Financial Institutions Act, 1993 and Rules there under. **3.**You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of yours assets on or before the next date of hearing. **4.**You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, for further proceedings. **5.** In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will be liable to pay:(a) Such interests as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate/ execution proceedings. (b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processess and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due.

Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on **05.11.2024**.

Sd/-Recover Officer
Debts Recovery Tribunal, Bangalore, (DRT 2)

Note: Attention is invited to Rule 16 of the Second Schedule of the Income Tax Act 1961 read with Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 which is reproduced below: "Rule 16 (1) Where a notice has been served on a defaulter under Rule 2, the defaulter or his representative in interest shall not be competent to mortgage, charge, lease or otherwise deal with any property belonging to him except with the permission of the Debt Recovery Officer, nor shall any Civil Court issue any process against such property in execution of a decree for the payment of money. (2) Where an attachment has been made under this Schedule any private transfer or delivery of the property attached or of any interest therein and any payment to the defaulter of any debt, dividend or other monies contrary to such attachment, shall be void, as against all claims enforceable under the attachment". (3) You are also liable to disclose your assets both movable and immovable to this Tribunal along with the Income Tax Returns of last 5 years.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - 2 (BENGALURU)
4th Floor, B.S.N.L. Telephone House Building, Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru - 560001.

PROCLAMATION OF SALE CUM E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE
ISSUED UNDER RULE 52(2) OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961 READ WITH THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS AND BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993 (As Amended From Time to Time)
T.R.C. No. 345/2019 in T.A. No. : 1511/2017 (O.A. No. 342/2016)

Between :
Bank of India, Doddaballapur Branch
(Now with Asset Recovery Branch, Bengaluru)
... Certificate Holder Bank (CHB)

V/s.
Mr. Rajanna .H & Others **... Certificate Debtors**

To,
1. Mr. Rajanna .H S/o. Late Hanumegowda (Gaddambachalahalli) Rajagatta (P), Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural Dist. - 561203.
2. Mrs. Gajalakshmi W/o. Rajanna .H (Gaddambachalahalli) Rajagatta (P), Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural Dist. - 561203.
3. Mr. Narayanaswamy .T S/o. Thimmaiah, Residing at N41, Gaddambachalahalli, Rajagatta (P), Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural Dist. - 561203. **CDs**

The under mentioned property will be sold by 'Online e-Auction' through Website : www.bankauctions.in on 17-10-2025 for Recovery of an amount of **Rs. 4,23,99,540.92/- (Rupees Four Crores Twenty Three Lakhs Ninety Nine Thousand Five Hundred Fourty and Ninety Two Paise only) as on 14-07-2025,** excluding cost and interest **from 15-07-2025.** The futures interest is chargeable at the same rate till realization of debts as per recovery certificate bearing **T.R.C. No. 345/2019 in T.A. No. : 1511/2017 (O.A. No. 342/2016).**

Date, Time of Auction	17-10-2025 at 11.00 A.M. To 12.30 P.M.
Reserve Price	Rs. 4,11,00,000/- (Rupees Four Crores Eleven Lakh only)
Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 41,10,000/- (Rupees Forty One Lakhs Ten Thousand only)
Bid Increase Amount	Rs. 5,00,000/- (Rupees Five Lakhs only)
Last Day for EMD Submission	14-10-2025 at 11.59 p.m. *

*The intending participants shall deposit EMD amount by RTGS / NEFT / Fund transfer to be credited to E-Auction collection account in the name of **Recovery Officer-1, DRT-II, Bengaluru** bearing **No. 849221110000004** with **Bank of India, Basaveshwarnagar Branch, IFSC Code No BKID0008492** and submit the Bid forms online with requisite details viz proof of deposit of EMD, Aadhar Card, PAN Card, Address & ID proof on or before the last date mentioned above. The hard copies of duly filled in along with self-attested copies of above documents by hand Delivery / Registered / Speed Post / Courier to the undersigned so as to reach **on or before 16.10.2025 by 4.00 PM.** The EMD Received / Deposited and uploading of bid forms in e-auction service provider portal **After 14.10.2025 at 11.59 PM shall not be considered.** Postal delays are not entertained. The deposit of the EMD and the sale amount should be routed through the account of the bidder only.

Schedule of Property : All that piece and parcel of Agricultural Land bearing Sy.No. 150/2, Measuring 01 Acres 35 Guntas, Situated at Thimmasandra Village, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural Dist. and bounded as follows : **East by :** Land of Sri Muniyappa, **West by :** Land of Sri. Chennegowda, **North by :** Govt. Road, **South by :** Land of Sri Muniyappa.

For Terms and Conditions of Sale, visit **Website : www.bankauctions.in, Service Provider - M/s. Foreclosure India Pvt. Ltd.** The intending Participants / Bidders are advised to contact **Service Provider M/s Foreclosure India Pvt.Ltd** for detailed Terms and Conditions. The intending Participants / Bidders are also required to contact for online registration, user Id, password and help to know the procedure, online training about e-auction, for submitting their bid form and for taking part in e-auction sale proceedings. Contact person details of the service provider are as under.

Name of Officer	Mail id:	Contact No.:
Mr. Varun.B	info@bankauctions.in	8142000809
Mr. Jayaprakash Reddy	info@bankauctions.in	8142000064

The Intending Bidder/Participants are advised to **Contact Mr. Amit Kumar, Chief Manager, Bank of India, Bengaluru Asset Recovery Branch, Contact No.: 9850477529 or Mr. Akash.T, Officer, Bank of India, Bengaluru Asset Recovery Branch, Contact No.: 8921216124, E-Mail Id: AssetRecovery.Bengaluru @bankofindia.co.in. Branch Contact No.: 080-22959407 / 408,** before date of Auction sale, for detailed terms and conditions, Queries, knowing about pending litigation/s, guidance, inspection of schedule property, perusal of copies of title deeds and latest Encumbrances certificate to exercise due diligence and satisfy themselves about the title of property which is under auction sale.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on 11-09-2025

Sd/- Recovery Officer-1, DRT-2, Bengaluru

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Day 2 — Agenda

10:30 AM - 11:10 AM Young Turks - A New Sporting Vision for New India

Hannah Muthoot
(Director of Sport, Muthoot Pappachan Group)

Akhilesh Reddy
(Chairman & Managing Director, Racing Promotions Pvt. Ltd.)

Suhail Chandhok
(CEO, U Mumba & Co-Founder, Elev8 India Sportz)

11:15 AM - 11:55 AM Wired for Winning: Tech, AI & the Science of Sport

Iris Cordoba Mondejar
(Managing Director, GSIC Powered by Microsoft)

Alan Davis
(Marketing Head, CricViz)

Chintan Shah
(SVP – Teams, Leagues & Federations, Sportz Interactive)

12:00 PM - 12:15 PM PRESENTATION:

Dilsher Singh Malhi
(Founder and CEO, Zupee)

12:20 PM - 12:50 PM Purpose Play: CSR, Inclusion & Sport for All

Sminu Jindal
(Managing Director, Jindal SAW Ltd)

Anupam Nidhi
(Head, Corporate Social Responsibility, Vedanta Group & Hindustan Zinc)

Neelam Babardesai
(Head of Sports, Tata Trusts)

Prijoe Tharu
(Associate General Manager, HCL Foundation)

12:50 PM - 1:00 PM STATE SHOWCASE - UTTAR PRADESH

Presentation by
Suhas Lalinakere Yathiraj IAS
(Secretary Sports of UP Government)

01:00 PM - 02:15 PM - LUNCH AND NETWORKING

2:15 PM - 3:00 PM New Frontiers in Sports: Play, Fitness and More

Deepak Raj
(Country Head, Ironman India and HYROX India)

Sameer Pathak
(President, Pickleball)

Neha Parab Kandalgaonkar
(Vice President & Head of Corporate Communications, Procam International)

Parvin Dabas
(Co-Founder, Pro Panja League)

Tuhin Mishra
(MD & Co-Founder at Baseline Ventures, Promoter, Prime Volleyball League)

3:00 PM - 3:15 PM Spotlight Session: Innovation in Sport - Microsoft Perspective

Iris Cordoba Mondejar
(Managing Director, GSIC Powered by Microsoft)

3:20 PM - 4:00 PM Beyond the Game: Building Careers in Sports

Nilesh Kulkarni
(Founder-Director, International Institute of Sports Management)

Dr. Amit Bhalla
(Vice President, Manav Rachna University)

John Gloster
(Head Physio, Rajasthan Royals)

Dr. Shobhit Jain IRS
(Joint Secretary, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports)

4:05 PM - 4:15 PM STATE SHOWCASE - PUNJAB

Presentation by
Harpreet Singh Sudan IAS
(Director - Sports, Govt of Punjab)

4:15 PM - 5:00 PM Gameplan 2036: India's Global Event Ambitions

Hari Ranjan Rao IAS
(Secretary, Sports, Govt. of India)

Gagan Narang
(Olympic Bronze Medallist, Shooting and Vice President, Indian Olympic Association)

Achanta Sharath Kamal
(Olympian, Vice Chairperson, Athletes Commission, IOA)

Devendra Jhajharia
(President, Paralympic Committee of India)

5:00 PM - 5:45 PM Fireside Chat: Leadership & Life Beyond the Pitch

Kapil Dev
(1983 World Cup-winning India captain)

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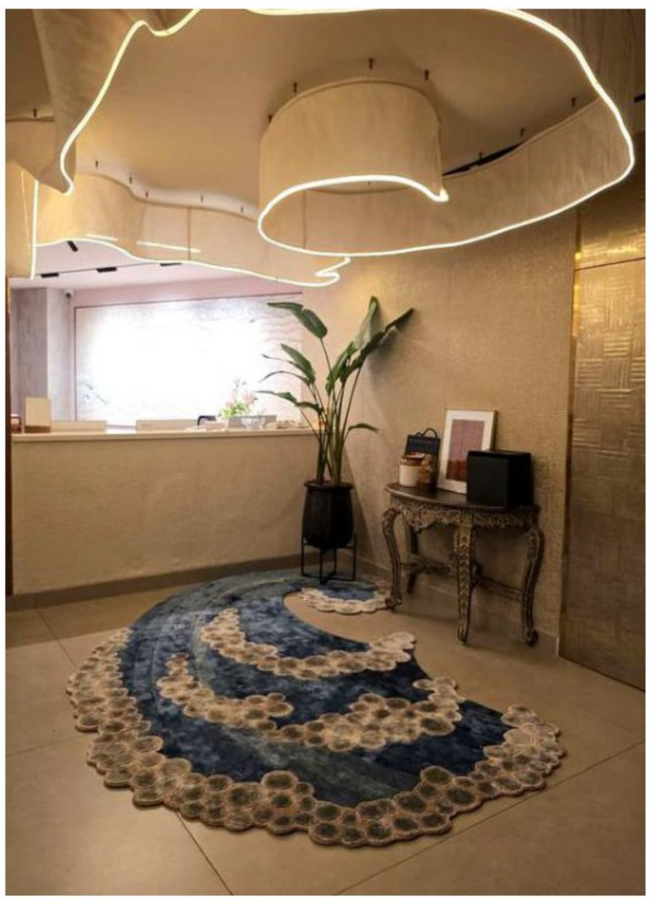
(Clockwise from above) Cushions from Shades of India along with custom crafted chair from Vishvesh; Vishvesh's handcrafted rug; wall covering collection by CMO Paris, along with premium bedding by Spread Spain.



The fabric of a family legacy

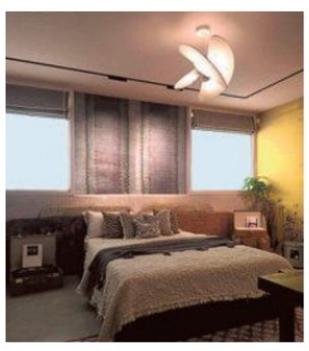
From bespoke drapery to curated wallpapers, the relaunched Vishvesh store in Chennai brings forward fabric-led design

K.S. Swati

Under a sunlit glass roof, with the pristine blue Chennai sky overhead, Dhruv V. Patel, 33, sits at his favourite spot in his store, now spread over 3,000 sq. ft, away from the bustling traffic near Cathedral Road. Patel talks about the relaunch of the Vishvesh store and that they are on to something – "luxury home furnishing".

The family-run Vishvesh has been a pioneer in that space, in the city, for over five decades. When it comes to picking curtains for homes, Dhruv says, "It's no longer just about privacy, but also about dressing up the home, to make it look beautiful and feel luxurious."

The store has expanded its focus now to include rugs, beddings and furniture. It showcases a wide array of custom-made drapery and rugs (sourced from Jaipur and Mirzapur), handcrafted carpets,



premium wallpapers (Armani Casa, Mayflower, Sabyasachi, among others), and statement furniture pieces, which they have just begun manufacturing.

First launched in 1971 by Dhruv's grandfather Jashbhai Patel, and named after his father Vishvesh, the store sold curtain fabrics. It is now managed by Dhruv and his brother Harsh. From 150 varieties then, the catalogue has expanded to 500-600 options today. The change reflects evolving customer demands for diverse textures and contemporary styles. "Customers don't always know what they want; they just want a house. The real credit goes to architects and interior designers," he says.

'Luxurious, one-stop solution'

The idea is to "offer a luxurious, one-stop solution by bringing together multiple brands, giving each segment a significant space to be displayed properly," he says, since "limited areas per brand often mean customers have to visit multiple times to make selections, which can be inconvenient."

From polyester, cotton, and viscose mixes to silk and natural linen, the store exhibits a strong focus on fabric. Curtains are priced between ₹600 and ₹60,000 per metre of cloth while wallpapers start at ₹55-₹70 per sq.ft. "For the curtains, we work with a mix of well-established Indian and international brands to cater to diverse tastes and requirements. Our long-term Indian partners include Atmosphere and Vaya from Bengaluru, Ara Deco from Delhi, and Pure Fine Fabrics (an associate of Asian Paints). Internationally, we source from Clarke & Clarke (U.K.), Didar (Iran), Elites, and Nobilis (Paris), to ensure that our customers and architects get premium options. For wall coverings, we collaborate with Arte, Harley Quinn, Elites, Noblis, and Armani Casa," he says. Besides hand-tufted carpets, accent tables inspired by nature, and upholstered furniture pieces, there's also a dedicated bedding section, in collaboration with Delhi's Sheers of India, that offer exclusive handmade bedding and pillows.

Chennai's home-buyers began shifting towards luxury goods post-pandemic, he says, adding that the market is still nascent. Besides Casagrand real-estate chain, Vishvesh has worked on show flats with Tulip residences. Architect Indu Sugumar, of I and S Studio in K.K. Nagar, who has been working with Vishvesh for over 25 years and has extensively used their products in her residential projects, has designed the new retail store over eight months. Dhruv ensured sustainability was woven into the renovated space by using LED lighting, and more than 70% of old plywood in the false ceiling to avoid wastage. Stretch ceilings create the illusion of natural light, while select wall coverings, including CMO Paris and Armani, add opulent textures – some with animal prints. In addition to tapping into the social media audience, Dhruv also plans on hosting small monthly workshops for artisans at his showroom.

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PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/160824/006972 ELECTRONIC CITY G+4 — 10 MINS. HOSA ROAD METRO — ₹ 62.26 L - 1.24 Cr*	PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/290122/004660 SARJAPURA G+4 — SARJAPUR - ATTIBELE RD — ₹ 43.68 - 83.25 Lakhs*	PRM/KA/RERA/1251/472/PR/250225/007524 AIRPORT ROAD G+14 — NEAR TECH CLOUD IT PARK — ₹ 69.87 L - 1.18 Cr*	PRM/KA/RERA/1251/310/PR/150223/005721 MYSORE ROAD G+14 — NEAR CHALLAGHATTA METRO STN. — ₹ 59.56 - 87.47 Lakhs*	PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/160824/006973 BANNERGHATTA RD G+14 — NEAR KOPPA GATE — ₹ 56.64 - 82.18 Lakhs*

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BG-BGE

Work on Sharavati project will start soon, says George

Work on pumped storage project to begin after convincing local people who are opposing it. The project will ensure production of 2,000 MW of power at a low cost

The Hindu Bureau
SHIVAMOGGA

Taking stock: Minister for Energy K.J. George chairing a review meeting in Chikkamagaluru on Friday.

M
inister for Energy K.J. George has said that the Central Wildlife Board has granted approval for the Sharavati Pumped Storage Project, and the work will begin soon after convincing the local people who are opposing it.

Addressing a press conference in Chikkamagaluru on Friday, Mr. George claimed that people residing close to the project site would not be affected. "The local people need not have any apprehensions about the project. The damage to ecology will be minimum. We will convince the local public about these issues before beginning the work," he said.

The Minister said that the Karnataka Power Corporation Limited will provide suitable compensation to the people who will lose their land owing to the project.

A total of 120 acres of land was required for the project, of which, only 50 acres was private land, he said.

The Forest Department would be getting alternative land for the forestland required, the Minister added.

"As much as 2,000 MW of power will be generated by supplying water from Gerusoppa reservoir to Talakalale reservoir through a pipeline. Since new reservoirs will be constructed for the pumped storage project, the natural flow of the river will not be obstructed. As much of the pipeline will be underground, there will hardly be any damage to the forest. The project will ensure production of 2,000 MW of power at a low cost and the same can be supplied to customers during peak hours," he said.

Solar scheme

"To facilitate irrigation for farmers, the KUSUM-B scheme has been implemented. Under this scheme, solar power is being provided to borewells located more than 500 metres away from the electricity feeder. Farmers will receive 80% subsidy from the Central and State governments, and only the remaining 20% of the cost has to be borne by the beneficiaries," Mr. George said.

Similarly, under the KUSUM-C scheme, steps had been taken to generate solar power through private participation. A project worth ₹10,000 crore had been planned for this purpose. Once implemented, this scheme would generate 2,500 MW of electricity, he said.

ASHA workers to distribute questionnaires on socio educational survey from today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Stating that the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes, headed by Madhusudan R. Naik, will submit the socio-educational report by December, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has said that the services of ASHA workers will be utilised in distributing questionnaires to households for the socio educational survey scheduled to be held from September 22 to October 07.

"From September 13, the questionnaires will be delivered to households by ASHA workers, following which teachers will go for enumeration from September 22. Those who find it difficult to speak about the castes, can call the helpline and reveal their caste identity. The government is working on those lines that will prevent repeat of mistakes or error that were pointed out in the previous survey," the Chief Minister told presspersons here on Friday. He also said that 60 questions have been finalised that will be asked to those being enumerated, and that options have been created to participate in the survey through phone and online methods.

The Chief Minister said the government will be incurring a cost of about ₹325 crore on allowances to be paid to about 1.75 lakh teachers being roped in as enumerators. Each enumerator is being paid an allowance of ₹20,000.

"The government has committed ₹420 crore and is willing to provide more funds if needed. Since there is power connection in every household, the meter reader will geo tag them, and will paste a sticker that provides separate identity number," he said, adding that preparations are afoot to ensure everyone is covered under the survey with stickers to be pasted on 1.55 lakh homes. Those seeking information about the survey or wish to lodge complaint may call 8050770004.

The Aadhaar number and ration card number will be linked to the mobile phone number, and enumerators will also visit households that are without mobile phones or a power connection, he added.

A technical team in the commission is expected to take a call on those who have converted or are confused about the castes.

This is the second survey after the first one conducted by H. Kantharaj Commission in 2015, which was junked by the State government earlier this year, citing that the data was 10 years old.

"The data of all castes and communities collected during the survey will help the government in formulating programmes in line with social justice. While we have reservation in India, it is called affirmative action for the blacks in the US," Mr. Siddaramaiah said.

"I have instructed the commission to submit its report after taking enough precautions," he said.

The survey in numbers

- Start date: **September 22**
- End date: **October 7**
- Estimated population to be covered: **about 7 crore**
- Number of households to be covered: **about 2 crore**
- Number of enumerators: **1.75 lakh**
- Estimated cost **₹420 crore**

Seers to create awareness

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Seers of Veerashaiva-Lingayat mutts across Karnataka have decided to take up a door-to-door campaign to create awareness among their followers to identify themselves as 'others' in the religion category during the Socio Educational Survey scheduled to be conducted by Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes from September 22.

Seers representing 186 mutts held a preliminary meeting with representatives of Akhila Bharatha Veerashaiva Mahasabha, which has given a call to Veerashaiva-Lingayats to identify themselves under 'others' in the religion category, and enumerate themselves as Veerashiava-Lingayats.

Mahasabha secretary H.M. Renuka Prasanna said that during the discussion, it was decided to invite political leaders from all parties for the Veerashaiava-Lingayata Ekata Samavesha to be held in Hubballi on September 19. "The seers backed the mahasabha initiatives ahead of the survey," Mr. Renuka Prasanna added.

HC stays ED's action of attaching actor Ranya's properties

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has stayed the action the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) in provisionally attaching certain properties of Kannada actor Harshavardini Ranya, who has been arrested in a gold smuggling case, under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering (PML) Act.

Justice Sachin Shankar Magadum passed the interim order on a petition filed by Ranya, who had questioned the correctness of the order of provisional attachment issued by the ED on July 4, 2025.

Date of offence

Her advocate had contended that though the predicate offence (the offence of smuggling), based on which the ED had initiated proceedings under the PML Act, is of the year 2025, the ED has attached even some of the properties that she had acquired prior to the registration of gold smuggling case.

Ranya Rao

Citing a 2023 judgment of the apex court in the case of Pavana Dibbur Vs. ED, the actor's advocate contended that the properties acquired prior to the commission of predicate offence, which is scheduled offence (of smuggling) under PML Act, cannot be included in the provisional attachment.

"*Prima Facie*, this court finds that the impugned attachment, insofar as it covers properties acquired before the commission of the alleged predicate offence, is without jurisdiction. The matter, therefore, requires consideration in the light of the law laid down by the Supreme Court in Pavana Dibbur case," the High Court observed while staying the ED's order of provisional attachment, till next date of hearing of the petition.

Stone-pelting incident: Maddur inspector suspended, Mandya Addl. SP transferred

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Maddur town Police Inspector Shivakumar has been suspended in connection with pelting of stones during Ganesh idol immersion procession on September 7, while Additional Superintendent of Police of Mandya district Thimmaiah has been transferred.

Not present

Minister in-charge of Mandya district N. Cheluvarayaswamy told presspersons that the Inspector was suspended as he was not present at the spot when the stone-pelting on the Ganesha idol procession took place in Maddur town on September 7 night. Even though he had made all the security arrangements, he was not present at the spot, Mr. Cheluvarayaswamy said.

With regard to Mr. Thimmaiah's transfer, Mr. Cheluvarayaswamy said the Additional Superintendent's transfer was due for more than five months. "His transfer has nothing to do with the trouble in Maddur," the Minister said.

Mr. Cheluvarayaswamy said he was not in a position to blame police negligence for the Maddur incident. An inquiry into the matter was under way. "We have to wait till the inquiry is completed," the Minister added.

Yatnal booked for provocative speech

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

The police have registered a case against former Union Minister and expelled Bharatiya Janata Party leader Basanagouda Patil Yatnal for a provocative speech during a visit to Maddur on Thursday.

Mr. Yatnal is MLA for Vijayapura in north Karnataka.

The police said that an FIR had been registered against Mr. Yatnal under Section 196 (1) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) that pertains to promoting enmity between groups based on religion, Section 299 of BNS (outraging religious feelings), and Section 353 (2) of BNS that deals with statements conducive to public mischief.

Complaint

Superintendent of Police, Mandya, Mallikarjun Baladandi said the case was booked against the expelled BJP leader based on a complaint by sub-inspector of Maddur police station.

Mr. Yatnal addressed a gathering in Maddur on Thursday in connection with the stone-pelting incident at a Ganesha idol immersion procession in the town on September 7.

The *suo motu* case against Mr. Yatnal follows a similar FIR registered against BJP MLC C.T. Ravi.

G. Parameshwara

'Will provide security to Banu Mushtaq'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Booker Prize winner Banu Musthaq, who has been selected to inaugurate Dasara festivities in Mysuru, will receive police security.

Her choice by the State government has been criticised by the Opposition BJP and Right wing groups, which have asked her recuse herself from the inauguration.

On Friday, Home Minister G. Parameshwara told presspersons that the State would provide security to the writer.

He said that discussions were on to increase the age eligibility criteria in the recruitment of police constables in the State. " Recruitment to the post of constables have not been done for several years. There is a demand to increase the age eligibility criteria by two to three years. I have directed officials to consider the age eligibility criteria in other States and submit a proposal," the Home Minister said.

Presiding officers tell lawmakers their conduct should reflect values, responsibility

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The plenary session of the 11th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, India Region Conference, being held in Bengaluru sought to remind legislators that their conduct in the House must reflect the values of respect and responsibility towards the public.

Debates

Speakers of various State Legislative Assemblies said that healthy debates, based on facts and sound reasoning, were essential for keeping the executive in check and for ensuring that policies aligned with public expectations.

Speakers said healthy debates are essential for keeping the executive in check and for ensuring that policies aligned with public expectations

The Speakers stressed that debates in legislature helped in framing policies that represented the diverse voices of the nation, ensuring that governance remained accountable and inclusive.

The session was chaired by the Karnataka Legislative Council Chairman Basavaraj S. Horatti. Karnataka Legislative Assembly Speaker U. T. Khader, Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly Speaker Satish Mahana, Odisha Legislative Assembly Speaker Surabha Padhy, and Sikkim Legislative Assembly Speaker Mingma Norbu Sherpa participated in the debate.

They stressed that disruptions in legislature proceedings and insufficient debate on key issues undermined public confidence and hindered the democratic progress. The importance of ensuring proper discussion time for Bills, improving the quality of debates and addressing the challenges of limited sitting days were also discussed.

It was reiterated that the success of democracy depended not just on economic growth but also on social justice and inclusive participation.

The conference concludes on Saturday.

State textile policy in the offing

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka will soon formulate a Textile Policy 2025-2030 to attract investments in the textile and readymade garment sector and generate employment opportunities to about 2 lakh persons, Textile Minister Shivanand Patil said on Friday.

Stating that the government was taking steps for the comprehensive development of the textile sector, he said that after analysing the reasons for the loss during the audit, the government had decided to merge Handloom Development Corporation and Karnataka State Textiles Infrastructure Development Corporation.

The Minister said he had appealed to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah seeking a direction to the departments to buy handloom products.

e-Procurement Notice
BID ID. NO. ACECMIC-01/2025-26

1.	Name of the Work	As per Annexure to this bid notice
2.	No. of Works	04 (Four) Nos.
3.	Estimated Cost	Approximate cost varies from Rs.100.95 Lakh to Rs.231.28 Lakh.
4.	Class of Contractor	'B' & 'A' Class
5.	Period of Completion	11 (Eleven) Calendar Months
6.	Date and Time of Availability of Bid Documents and Receipt of Bid Cost on online Payment mode in Portal	From 17.09.2025 (10.30 Hrs.) to 03.10.2025 (up to17.30 Hrs) in Website (www.tendersodisha.gov.in)
7.	Last Date / Time for receipt of Bids in the Portal	03.10.2025 (Upto 17.30 Hrs.) through online only.
8.	Date of Opening of Technical Bid	on 04.10.2025 11.00 Hrs Onwards in the O/o - Additional Chief Engineer, Central M.I. Circle, Bhubaneswar.
9.	Name and address of OIT	Additional Chief Engineer, Central M.I.Circle, Bhubaneswar. Plot No.-A-8/2, Po:Bhoinagar, Bhubaneswar. PIN:751022, Dist: Khurda. Ph: 0674-2540559.

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement market place : http://tendersodisha.gov.in

Additional Chief Engineer,
Central M.I.Circle, Bhubaneswar.

A-614 : OIPR-32047/11/0012/2526

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, RAICHUR
[ICAR, NAAC accredited and UGC u/s 12(B) & 2(f) approved]
Stores Purchase Officer, UAS, Raichur - 584104,
E-mail: spo@uasraichur.edu.in Ph: 08532-220165

Notification No.SPO/UASR/ 78 /2025-26, Date: 09.09.2025

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION

The University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur inviting request for Quotation to obtain rates to finalize the cost estimates for Strengthening of Centre of excellence on PlantGenomics towards developing climate resillance crop & training the youth in Molecular techniques at UAS, Raichuron turnkey basis as per requirement. The interested suppliers are requested to provide the best rates through quotations. The quotation should be addressed in the name of Registrar, UAS, Raichur& sent to the office of the Registrar, University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur-584104, not later than 15 days. The details of description can be obtained/ downloaded from the website: https://uasraichur.karnataka.gov.in (Notification No. No.SPO/UASR/78/2025-26 Date: 09.09.2025) The last date for submission of filled in Quotations is 26.09.2025

DIP/RCR/397/KSMCA/398/2025-26

Sd/- Stores Purchase Officer
UAS, Raichur.

From Page One

Cinema ticket price capped at ₹200

Capping ticket price has been a long pending demand of exhibitors to attract more footfall to cinemas while the audience complained about the high cost incurred in watching cinemas.

"We welcome the decision of the government. Over the past few years, exhibitors were in a dismal situation. The price cap will make tickets affordable for one entire family.If there is more footfall, they will be encouraged to maintain the theatres in a good state," said K.V. Chandrashekar, president, Karnataka Film Theatre Owners' Association. The Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce welcomed the decision saying, "The high cost of tickets was one of the main reasons behind the public refraining from watching films in theatres. Now, with the price cap, people can watch at least two or three movies a month. Earlier, people would only wait and watch big-budget, spectacle-like movies in theatres, ignoring smaller yet quality films. Now, people can think of watching all kinds of movies in theatres," KFCC president M. Narasimhalu said.

INBRIEF

Kerala's IT exports nearing ₹1 lakh cr. says Pinarayi

Kerala's IT exports are fast approaching the ₹1 lakh-crore mark, while the number of start-ups has registered a 21-fold increase in the last nine years, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has said.

Delivering the inaugural address at the two-day Kerala Urban Conclave that got under way at Grand Hyatt Convention Centre in Kochi on Friday, Mr. Vijayan said the Kerala government's 'One Lakh Enterprises in a Year' scheme turned out to be a resounding success.

CJI urged to review selection process for V-Cs in 2 varsities

Former ISRO chief and 15 others write to CJI; the letter points out the lack of a UGC nominee in the search panel and the 'all-pervasive' role given to the State CM in the selection process

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

A collective of former Vice-Chancellors, academicians, and scientists have raised concerns with the Chief Justice of India over the selection process for the Vice-Chancellors of the APJ Abdul Kalam Technological University and the Digital University Kerala.

In a letter, they alleged that the process deviated from established university governance norms and contradicted previous Supreme Court rulings.

The joint petition, signed by 16 distinguished persons, including former Indian Space Research Organisation chairperson G. Madhavan Nair and former diplomat T.P. Sreenivasan, criticised the completion of the search-cum-selection committees. They pointed out that the panels lacked a representative from the University Grants Commission (UGC), despite the top court's rulings that a UGC nominee must be included.

Petitioners alleged violation of selection norms at Digital University Kerala (above) and another university. DIGITAL UNIVERSITY KERALA

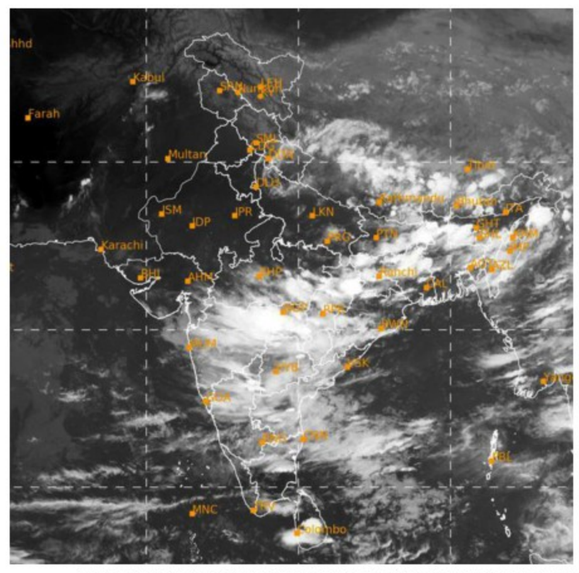
The letter also expressed concern over the current order, reportedly based on a precedent in a case involving universities in West Bengal. The directive appeared to grant an "all-pervasive" role to the State's Chief Minister. They argued that this went beyond the legal framework provided by the university Act concerned and the UGC regulations.

Vacancies in varsities

The petition also highlighted the issue of political interference in higher education which, they claimed, was deterring eminent professionals from applying for Vice-Chancellor positions. The group also stated that a high number of seats remained vacant in universities and youths are migrating to other States and countries.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 17.45 HRS)

Forecast for Saturday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Uttarakhand, Bihar, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, West Bengal, Odisha, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa and Karnataka

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	2	31.8	26.8	Kozhikode	—	32.8	25.0
Ahmedabad	—	33.4	25.4	Kurnool	15	29.6	23.6
Aizawl	2.2	29.2	20.4	Lucknow	—	34.4	27.3
Allahabad	—	35.6	26.0	Madurai	—	37.0	24.4
Bengaluru	—	28.0	20.7	Mangaluru	—	31.0	23.9
Bhopal	—	31.0	23.6	Mumbai	7	29.5	24.2
Bhubaneswar	—	34.0	26.4	Mysuru	—	30.4	19.0
Chandigarh	—	33.1	25.8	New Delhi	—	34.5	24.3
Chennai	—	34.9	27.6	Patna	—	34.3	27.0
Coimbatore	—	33.6	23.0	Port Blair	8	30.4	24.7
Dehradun	—	30.5	24.3	Puducherry	—	33.9	22.8
Gangtok	34	21.5	18.1	Pune	—	30.0	23.3
Goa	3	31.0	24.5	Raipur	35.6	—	31.0
Guwahati	—	32.0	26.7	Ranchi	57	31.1	23.6
Hubballi	—	27.0	22.0	Shillong	13	23.0	17.6
Hyderabad	16	28.1	20.8	Shimla	7	24.6	18.0
Imphal	10.6	30.8	24.1	Srinagar	—	31.9	18.5
Jaipur	—	33.8	25.0	Thiruvananthapuram	—	35.1	24.6
Kochi	—	30.4	25.0	Tiruchi	—	35.3	24.4
Kohima	38	22.6	19.2	Vijayawada	2	30.8	25.4
Kolkata	0.4	34.1	28.2	Visakhapatnam	—	28.6	26.2

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.14	..36	44	 43	79	.....
Bengaluru	...9	..17	35	 42	...168	.....
Chennai	...2	..18	.—	 52	...117	.....
Delhi	...9	..11	26	... 219	...138	.....
Hyderabad	...5	..13	17	 87	81	.....
Kolkata	...7	..44	23	 55	54	.....
Lucknow	...5	..12	32	... 104	...112	.....
Mumbai	..—	..89	58	 20	50	.....
Pune	..—	..45	26	 57	...102	.....
Visakhapatnam	...9	..56	29	... 104	...121	.....

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Nandesari, Gujarat recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 165 indicating a moderate level of pollution. In contrast, Shillong, Meghalaya recorded a healthy AQI score of 16

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Binoy Viswam stays as CPI Kerala secretary

The Hindu Bureau
ALAPPUZHA

Binoy Viswam will continue as the State secretary of the Communist Party of India (CPI) in Kerala after a unanimous re-election at the party's State conference in Alappuzha on Friday. The conference also elected 103 members and 11 candidate members to the State Council.

Mr. Viswam was first elected State secretary following the death of Kanam Rajendran in December 2023.

Criticism against police

Serious criticism was levelled against the Kerala Police over custodial torture incidents. Referring to the disruption of Thrissur Pooram and other issues, delegates described the Home department "a total failure." Criticism was raised that Loka Kerala Sabha and the Global Ayyappa Sangamam were not in line with Left policies.

Man held for abusing woman bike taxi driver

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The Arumbakkam Police arrested a 19-year-old youth who allegedly sexually harassed a woman bike taxi driver during a ride.

According to the Arumbakkam police, the suspect has been identified as Imran of Aminjikarai, who booked a ride on Thursday afternoon. The victim, a 31-year-old woman from Otteri, who drives a two-wheeler taxi, received a booking from Koyambedu to Arumbakkam MMDA. Though the caller claimed the ride was for his mother, Imran himself turned up, asking her to drop him at his college.

On the way, he allegedly spoke obscenely over his phone in a manner aimed at her and sexually harassed her by inappropriately touching. The woman stopped the vehicle at Arumbakkam and shouted at him, but he fled.

BENGALURU METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT CORPORATION
Traffic Commercial Department, 2nd Floor, Shanthinagar TTMC, K.H. Road, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru-560 027.
No: BMTC/CO/TR/COM/1902/2599/2025-26 Date: 11.09.2025
TENDER NOTIFICATION NO: 22/2025-26
(e-Procurement Platform)
Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation invites bids from the interested Persons/Agency/company on monthly license fee basis for **General Stalls (built and Open space), Refreshment Room and Prestige Apartment Flats** through e-procurement platform.

Last date for submission of bids	**26.09.2025 up to 17:00 hrs.**
Date of Opening Financial bids	**29.09.2025 at 11:30 hrs.**

For further details on license fees, EMD, Area and other conditions log on to: **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** & Contact no: **09240214000, 09240214001, 22371090, 22340060, 22340948** or **7760997519 & 7760991222** E-mail: **ctmc@mybmtc.com.**
Sd/- Chief Traffic Manager (Com) (Tender Inviting Authority)

Town Municipal Council Harugeri
S.No/TMC/25-26 **Date:-09.09.2025**
Tender Notification
Tenders are invited from qualified contractors on Model KW-3 for 1 works under 15th Finance Grant Schemes projects for the financial year 2024-25 .Minimum 90.30 lakhs to maximum amount of Rs 90.30 lakhs for works. Indent No 48456 The time period for carrying out the work will be 6 months. The last date for uploading the tenders is 04.10.2025 till 4.30 pm. And the date of opening of tenders: 06.10.2025 at 11.00 am. For more information you can check the website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. If there is any amendment in the tender, it will be notified online only
Sd/-Chief Officer
TMC Harugeri
DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-1013/KSMCA/2025-26

ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಆಕುಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಎನ್.ಪಿ.ಸಿ.ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಆವರಣ, ನಜರ್‌ಬಾದ್, ಮೈಸೂರು – 10
(ದೂರವಾಣಿ : 0821-2979772 ಇ-ಮೇಲ್: -khsdrp.divmys@gmail.com)
ಸಂ: ಆಕುಕ/ಇಂವಿ./ಕಾ.ಅ/ಮೈ/ಸಇ-3/ಟೆಂಡರ್-04(2ನೇ ಕರೆ), 9(2ನೇ ಕರೆ),10-(2ನೇಕರೆ)/AAM/2025-26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 10.09.2025
ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮೈಸೂರು ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಗೆ ಒಳಪಡುವ **ಚಾಮರಾಜನಗರ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ, ಹಾಸನ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು, ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಕನ್ನಡ ಮತ್ತು ಉಡುಪಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಆಯುಷ್ಮಾನ್ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮಂದಿರ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ** ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಲಾದ ಮೂರನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ ಮತ್ತು ಮೇಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಅರ್ಹ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಹಾಗೂ ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ/ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಪಂಗಡ, CAT-I, CAT-II(A) ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಒಟ್ಟಾರೆ 17 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ **ರೂ. 53.15 ರಿಂದ** ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ **ರೂ. 54.72 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಾಗಿರುತ್ತವೆ.**
ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆ ವೇಳಾಪಟ್ಟಿ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ವಿವರಗಳು:-1) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ: **22.09.2025ರಂದು 16.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ (2)** ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ (ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್): **23.09.2025 ರಂದು 16.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ.** ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ವಿದ್ಯುನ್ಮಾನ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ವೇದಿಕೆ ಮೂಲಕ (Through KPPP) https://kppp. karnataka.gov.in ದಿಂದ ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದು.
ಸೂಚನೆ: 1) ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿರುವವರು ಯಾವುದೇ ಕಾರಣಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಡದೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯನ್ನು ಮುಂದೂಡುವ/ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣವಾಗಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ರದ್ದುಗೊಳಿಸುವ/ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಿರಾಕರಿಸುವ ಹಕ್ಕನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. **2)** ಇನ್ನು ಮುಂದೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳು ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನ ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಬದಲಾಗಿ ವಿದ್ಯುನ್ಮಾನ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ವೇದಿಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.
ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು
ಆಕುಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮೈಸೂರು.
DIPR/MYS/960/SA/2025-26

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರಕಾರ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕು.ಕ. ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಚೇರಿ
ಉತ್ತರ-ಕನ್ನಡ, ಕಾರವಾರ-581301
No: DHO/NHM/BMW/UK/14/2025-26. Date:11.09.2025
ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ)
ಉತ್ತರ ಕನ್ನಡ, ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ 2025-26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ವಿವಿಧ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಘನ ತ್ಯಾಜ್ಯದ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ ಮತ್ತು ವಿಲೇವಾರಿಯನ್ನು ಮಾಡಲು ಅರ್ಹ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಂದ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಎರಡು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯೂಮೆಂಟ್ ಸಿಸ್ಟಂನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಉಚಿತ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಮೂನೆಗಾಗಿ, ವಿವರಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕುರಿತು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ನಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಡಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.
ವಿಷಯ: **(1)** ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳು ಚಾಲ್ತಿಗೆ ಬರುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **12-09-2025** ರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ **10:00** ಘಂಟೆಯಿಂದ **(2)** ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **20-09-2025** ರ ಸಂಜೆ **05:30** ಘಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ. **(3)** ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಹಾಕಲು ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **26-09-2025** ರ ಸಂಜೆ **05:30** ಘಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ. **(4)** ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **29-09-2025** ರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ **10:00** ಘಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ **(5)** ಒಟ್ಟು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮೊತ್ತ: ರೂ. **54,65,400/- (6)** ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತ: ರೂ. **1,19,500/-**
ಸಹಿ/- ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕು.ಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ, ಕಾರವಾರ. ಉಕ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ.
DIPR/KWR/KSMCA/489/25-26 Dt.12.09.2025

FINANCE DEPARTMENT
Vidhana Soudha, Bangalore.
No. FD 03 BMB 2025 **Bengaluru, September 12th, 2025**
PRESS COMMUNIQUE
It is notified for general information that the outstanding balance of **7.98% Karnataka SDL 2025** issued in terms of the Government of **Karnataka,** Finance Department Notification **No. FD 01 BMB 2015 Dated October 09, 2015** will be repaid at par on **October 14, 2025** with interest due up to and including **October 13, 2025.** In the event of a holiday being declared on the aforesaid date by any State Government under the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, the loan will be repaid by the paying offices in that State on the previous working day. **No interest will accrue on the loan from and after October 14, 2025.**
2. As per sub-regulation 24 (2) and 24 (3) of Government Securities Regulations, 2007 payment of maturity proceeds to the registered holder of Government Security held in the form of Subsidiary General Ledger or Constituent Subsidiary General Ledger account or Stock Certificate shall be made by a pay order incorporating the relevant particulars of his bank account or by credit to the account of the holder in any bank having facility of receipt of funds through electronic means. For the purpose of making payment in respect of the securities, the original subscriber or the subsequent holders of such a Government Securities, as the case may be, shall submit to the Bank or Treasury and Sub Treasury or branch of State Bank of India, where they are enfaced / registered for payment of interest, as the case may be, the relevant particulars of their bank account.
3. However, in the absence of relevant particulars of bank account / mandate for receipt of funds through electronic means, to facilitate repayment on the due date, holders of **7.98% Karnataka SDL 2025** should tender their securities at the Public Debt Office, 20 days in advance. The securities should be tendered for repayment, duly discharged on the reverse there of as under:
"Received the Principal due on the Certificate".
4. It should be particularly noted that at places where the treasury work is done by a branch of the State Bank of India, the securities, if they are in the form of Stock Certificates, should be tendered at the branch of the bank concerned and not at the Treasury or Sub-Treasury.
5. Holders who wish to receive payment at places other than those where the securities have been enfaced for payment should send them duly discharged to the Public Debt Office concerned by Registered and Insured Post. The Public Debt Office will make payment by issuing a draft payable at any Treasury / Sub- Treasury or branch of State Bank of India conducting Government Treasury work in the State of **Karnataka.**
Sd/- (Dr. P.C Jaffer)
Secretary to Government
DIPR/CP/2785/Zen/2025-26 **(Budget & Resources), Finance Department**

CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL HOSAPETE
No: CMC HPT/WS/AMRUTH/2025-26 Dated: 10-09-2025.
TENDER NOTIFICATION (IFT) E-PROCUREMENT
2025-26 Jal hi Amrith tenders are invited for the work mentioned below as per KTPP act 2000 in two cover system are invited from the eligible Contractors/Firms registered in KPWD as mentioned below. in e-procurement the contractors / firms will have to upload all information, documents and rates etc., www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in 1) Tender Last Date: 25-09-2025 5.00 PM. 2) Opening for Technical Bid will be on Date: 26-09-2025 5.00 PM. 3) Opening for Financial Bid will be on Date: 29-09-2025, 5.10 PM **Indent No: 1) DMA/ 2025-26/SE6039** Estimated Cost Rs in (Lakh) 193.93 (EMD : Rs. 3,87,860.00) any other information required can be obtained from the office of the CMC Hosapete during the working hours.
Sd/-Assistant Executive Engineer,CMC Hosapete **Sd/-Municipal Commissioner CMC Hosapete.**
DIPR/Vijayanagar/2025-26/KSMCA/RO No/242

HASSAN CITY CORPORATION
BM ROAD SANTHEPETE CIRCLE HASSAN-573201
web:http://www.hassancity.mrc.gov.in Email: commn_hassan@yahoo.com ದೂರವಾಣಿ:08172-268276
ಸಹಾಯವಾಣಿ:08172-233702 ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್:08172-234792
No:COM/HCC/TS/06/2025-26 Date:10-09-2025
: Tender Notification:
The Hassan City Corporation, Hassan inviting tender for different works under different grants through e-procurement KPPP Portal (https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in) from Minimum Tender Amount of Rs:5.00 Lakhs to Maximum Tender Amount of Rs:75.00 Lakhs.Check KPPP Portal For Last Date for Tender Submission,Any Changes in the tender conditions and Postponement of Calendar of events (If any) is notified only through E-Procurement KPPP Portal. For more details Contact No.08172-268276
Sd/-Commissioner, City Corporation Hassan
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಹಿಸನಿ/ಹಾಸನ/556/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಪಿಎ/2025-26

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, DHARWAD
Estate Branch, Krishi Nagar, Dharwad - 580 005.
Phone : 0836 - 2214291, E-mail : spo@uasd.in
No. : Ex.O /EO/Tender E-proc-07/2025-26 **Date : 11-09-2025**
TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through E-procurement Portal)
University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad is inviting tender for procurement of **Lab / Scientific Equipments & Agricultural Implements through E-procurement Portal.** The registered Authorized suppliers are requested to visit the **Website : http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** and **Download the Documents for Participation in the Tender. Last Date & Time for receipt of Tender : 27-09-2025 (Saturday) till 6.00 p.m., Other Schedule of Events can be availed in the E-portal.**
Tenderers need to register with E-procurement portal of Govt. of Karnataka Bangalore, For details of registration **Please Contact Ph. No. : 080 - 4601 0000.** Bidders are requested to get updated with the Corrigendum / Addendum (if any) issued online at the following link in the entire tender process. **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
For more Details Please Contact : 0836-2214291 During Office hours.
Sd/- Estate Officer, UAS, Dharwad.
DIPR/Dharwad/657/Manipal/2025-26

CAUVERY NEERAVARI NIGAMA LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprises)
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
No. 2, K.C. Division, Kollegal-571440,
Chamarajanagar District, Phone : 08224-252287
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
No. 10/2025-26 Dated : 10-09-2025
(Through KPP Portal Only)
On the behalf of the Managing Director, CNNL, Bangalore, the Executive Engineer, CNNL, No. 2, KC Division, Kollegal, the under signed invites tender for the work of **Consultancy services for conducting topographical survey and Preparation of Detailed Project Report for providing irrigation facilities to dry land of Hanur Taluk by extending KRBC and GRBC for Hanur Taluk, Chamarajnagar District** from Registered in the Govt-owned department & Registrar of Companies / Minister of Micro, Small and medium Enterprises & Consultants with appropriate current ISO licenses of eligible contractors for the Amount put to Tender: Rs. 150.00 lakhs; EMD: Rs. 2.25 lakhs; Tender Processing Fee: As per KPP-Portal. The contractor have to submit his tender through online KPP-Portal only. More information can be had from web site: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Last date of any queries: 18-09-2025 up to at 4.00 PM, Last date for receipt of completed tender and EMD : 19-09-2025 up to at 5.00 PM. Date of opening of Technical Bid : 20-9-2025 at 5.30 PM. Date of opening of Financial Bid : After approval of Technical Bid. Any other details required can be obtained from office of the under signed during office hours.
Sd/- Executive Engineer,
CNNL No. 2, KCD, Kollegal
No: DIPR:CHANAGAR:351:2025-26

Panchayat Raj Engineering Division, Bagalkot
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
Room No. 126, Navanagar, Bagalkote.
Phone : 08354 - 235042, E-mail : bgkeezpe@yahoo.com
No. : E.E./P.R.E.D./B.G.K./PB-1/5054/Tender/2025-26/2589
Date : 09-09-2025
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System) | (KW - 4 Bid Document)
Tender Called for the Work in the above notification through E-mode tendering is read as below.
Item rate Tender under **Two Cover Bid System** is invited as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement ACT 1999 and Rules 2000 **Standard Bid Document KW-4** through Public Electronic Tendering System (E-Tender from Class-1 contractor (Civil) registered in KPWD, Who have got adequate Financial Resources, State of Technology, Suitable Construction Equipments Technical Man Power & Sufficient Past Experience for the following Work as per Schedule Given Below.
Tender Called for 2021-22 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಲೆಕ್ಕಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ : 5054 ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ರೂ. 10.00 ಕೋಟಿ ಅನುಮೋದನೆ ಅನುದಾನ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಹುನಗುಂದ ವಿಧಾನಸಭಾ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ರಸ್ತೆ ಅನುದಾನದ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಹುನಗುಂದ ಉಪವಿಭಾಗ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ.
Scheme Under Work Indent No. : ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. : RDPR/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT17638, ಇದ್ದು, ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ವಿವರ, ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ, ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರ ಅರ್ಹತೆ ವಿವರ, ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. 253.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳ ಮಿತಿಗೊಳಪಟ್ಟು), ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅರ್ಜಿಯ ಬೆಲೆ ಮತ್ತು ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತ ಎಲ್ಲ ವಿವರಗಳು ಇ-ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಇದ್ದಂತೆ. read as below.
Calendar of Event : 1) Request of Blank Tender Documents and receipt of Completed Technical & Financial Bid through E-procurement Date : 09-09-2025 to 22-09-2025 at 5.30 p.m., 2) Pre-Bid Meeting Date : 19-09-2025 at 11.00 a.m., 3) Opening of Technical Bid Date : 24-09-2025 at 11.00 a.m., 4) Opening of Financial Bid Date : Technical Bid Approved.
Note : More details can be obtained through Website : https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in or contact the below signed Office during the Office hours. Phone : 08354-235042.
Sd/- Executive Engineer,
P.R.E. Division, Bagalkote.
DIPR/Bagalkote/272/Manipal/2025-26

Doublespeak

India is finding the Trump administration increasingly unreliable

Weeks after calling off the visit of trade negotiators to Delhi, the U.S. administration says it has invited Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal and the Indian trade team to Washington to resume talks for the India-U.S. FTA. The announcement came days after U.S. President Donald Trump and Prime Minister Narendra Modi signalled, through public comments and social media posts, a halt to tensions of the last four months. On Thursday, U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio and Mr. Trump's Ambassador-designate to India Sergio Gor also said they expect ties to be smooth, a trade deal to be announced shortly, and a Quad Summit later this year. Despite the U.S.'s punitive actions against India on trade, visas, deportations, and Mr. Trump's comments on Operation Sindoor, the ceasefire and his dealings with Pakistan, New Delhi has appeared prepared to move forward as well, with Mr. Goyal and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar confirming India's active engagement with the U.S. However, other comments by the Trump administration on India's import of Russian oil could throw a spanner in the works. Mr. Gor has said that stopping the imports by India remains the U.S.'s "top priority", while Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick has said that India has "got to stop" buying Russian oil for a U.S. trade deal. Meanwhile, reports suggest that Mr. Trump has personally asked the European Union to slap "100% sanctions" on India and China to make Russia stop the Ukraine conflict.

The U.S.'s doublespeak will disappoint many in government and industry circles who had expressed relief over the Modi-Trump détente, and the resumption of trade talks. At 50%, India and Brazil face the highest U.S. tariffs, and Indian textile exporters have begun to see orders being cancelled. According to the Chief Economic Adviser, V. Anantha Nageswaran, the tariffs could mean a loss of half a per cent from India's GDP, and job losses will be a concern as well. In theory, the government could consider the U.S.'s demands on reducing Russian oil if they had not been served as an ultimatum. However, even if New Delhi was so inclined, Washington is making the choice much harder with its crudely worded diktats. While the Modi government did accept the U.S. demands to stop the imports of Iranian and Venezuelan oil earlier, repeating that in 2025 with Russia is more complex. While the costs of oil sanctions and high tariffs can be absorbed, the costs of caving in now and the resultant reputational damage may seem greater in the balance.

Scam space

Social media platforms should proactively remove fraudulent content

Policing the digital economy requires what might seem disproportionate resources, and a recent case in Hyderabad illustrates why. A retired doctor was persuaded to invest more than ₹20 lakh after viewing a video on Instagram, in which Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman appeared to endorse an investment scheme. The video was a deepfake. Similar videos have been in circulation, featuring other public figures, to lend credibility to fraudulent cryptocurrency platforms. Such scams exploit the limited technical literacy of the wider population, regulatory gaps in cryptocurrency trading, the new use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)-generated deepfakes, and the limited response of social media platforms. Despite wide smartphone penetration, many users are still unable to identify online manipulation, and are further motivated by the promise of rapid profits and fabricated evidence of gains. Complaints often arise only after attempts to withdraw returns are blocked. Public awareness campaigns remain uneven and often general, leaving many people vulnerable to scams that use increasingly sophisticated forms of deception. Most countries, including India, also do not yet classify them with the same clarity as conventional securities, creating an environment where fraudsters operate with impunity. Many are hosted abroad, operate through complex chains of wallets, and can disappear overnight. While police units have developed capacity, their reach stops at national borders.

Social media platforms, which serve as the principal channel for these scams, often respond passively. While companies such as Instagram publish advisories on avoiding scams and offer reporting mechanisms, fraudulent videos and accounts remain accessible until removed. The policies of platforms emphasise user self-protection rather than proactive detection. This means that scams circulate long enough to entrap victims before takedown requests are processed. The scale of global content slows manual review while automated moderation systems remain limited in detecting manipulated videos. As they are private entities profiting from user engagement, platforms prefer to avoid sustained monitoring that would involve intrusive scrutiny of user uploads. The result is that deepfake scams are treated as individual incidents rather than systemic vulnerabilities. Three measures are necessary. First, governments must define standards for registration, disclosure, and cross-border cooperation to limit the space in which fraudulent schemes operate. Second, technical literacy must be treated as a public policy priority. Awareness efforts should be continuous and supported by educational institutions, rather than limited to periodic campaigns by police units. Third, social media platforms should be required to remove fraudulent content proactively. Without these, such scams will entail huge human and material costs.

The RTI's shift to a 'right to deny information'

Shailesh Gandhi

is a former Central Information Commissioner

The Right to Information (RTI) Act is founded on the principle that in a democracy, which is defined as "rule of the people, by the people, for the people", all information held by the government inherently belongs to the citizens. The government acts as a custodian of this information on behalf of the populace. Citizens legitimise their representatives by electing them, who in turn legitimise the bureaucracy. Therefore, the default mode under the RTI is that all information must be shared with citizens.

However, the Act always included specific exemptions to protect certain interests, such as national sovereignty. One crucial exemption is the Act's Section 8(1)(j), which is on "personal information".

The original Section 8(1)(j) was a detailed provision designed to balance the right to information with individual privacy. It stipulated that personal information could be denied if it had no connection to public activity or constituted an "unwarranted invasion on the privacy of an individual", unless there was a larger public interest in its disclosure.

A key aspect of this original provision was a proviso which is an acid test. It said: "provided that the information which cannot be denied to the Parliament or a State Legislature shall not be denied to any person". This meant that if information could not be denied to Parliament or a State Legislature it could also not be denied to an ordinary citizen.

The intent was to guide public information officers (PIOs) in discerning what constituted public activity, private activity, or an invasion of privacy, especially given the difficulty in definitively defining "privacy" (even *Justice K.S. Puttaswamy (Retd) vs Union Of India* acknowledged that it would evolve on a case-to-case basis). The government routinely collects information from an individual in the normal course of its duties, and such information is generally not considered to be an invasion of privacy and should, therefore, be shared. However, if it invades his privacy, it must not be taken routinely. Restrictions on the fundamental right to information should be within the limits set by Article 19(1)(2) of the Constitution. Here, there are only two words relating to privacy: 'decency' or 'morality'. If disclosure violates decency or morality, it should be denied to Parliament and citizens.

The ambiguity of 'personal information'

The Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act amends Section 8(1)(j) of the RTI Act – a drastic alteration of Section 8(1)(j) that reduces its length to six words. This significant abbreviation makes it easy for most information to be denied. The core concern revolves around the interpretation of "personal information" itself.

> Citizens and the media need to challenge the Digital Personal Data Protection Act's amendment of Section 8(1)(j) of the Right to Information (RTI) Act

One of the most pressing issues is the lack of a clear and consistent definition of "personal information" under the amended RTI Act, especially in its relationship with the new Data Protection Law. There are two conflicting views: the first is Natural Person Interpretation: One view holds that "person" should be understood in its general sense, referring to a "normal person" or natural person. The second is the DPDP Bill Definition. The other, equally valid view, interprets "person" as defined in the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Bill. The DPDP Bill's definition is expansive, including a "Hindu undivided family, a firm, a company, [and] any association of individuals and the State".

If the latter definition is adopted, "almost everything is personal information". A significant amount of information can be shown to be related to some person. Thus the law gives a handle to deny most information. The RTI is transformed into a Right to Deny information. It becomes an 'RDI'. This broad interpretation poses a fundamental threat to the spirit of transparency. Adding to the complexity, the DPDP Bill contains a provision that overrides all other laws in cases of conflict. This is alarming because the DPDP Bill specifies strong penalties for violations which can be as high as ₹250 crore.

This creates an untenable situation for PIOs. As much of the government information is now digital, PIOs are apprehensive that a mistake in disclosing information could lead to severe financial penalties. This fear will incentivise PIOs to err on the side of information denial rather than disclosure, effectively creating a "right to deny information". The DPDP Act must not override the RTI Act, though it might be acceptable for it to override other Acts.

Facilitating corruption

The practical implications of these amendments are dire for public accountability and the fight against corruption. Transparency is a crucial tool in this battle, especially when other anti-corruption mechanisms have proven to be ineffective.

The first is the loss of public monitoring. Citizens are the best monitors against corruption. If information is denied, this vital monitoring mechanism is severely hampered. India's multilayered government agencies such as vigilance departments, anti-corruption bureaus and the Lokpal, have abjectly failed to curb corruption.

The second is denial of essential information. The broadened scope of "personal information" means that even mundane yet crucial documents could be withheld – a citizen's own corrected marksheet could be denied as "personal". The example of Rajasthan sharing details of pension beneficiaries to combat "ghost employees" and "ghost cards" will cease. Even a simple order signed by an official could be denied as "personal information". It can result in over 90% of information being denied.

The third is unfettered corruption. The amendment "makes it the easy thing to be corrupt". Information relating to ghost employees or corruption charges falls under "personal information". It will be hidden, allowing corruption to 'flourish and continue unhindered'.

While the "larger public interest" clause still exists in the RTI Act (in Section 8(2)), its practical application is extremely rare and difficult. Citizens should not have to demonstrate "larger public interest" to access information as it is their fundamental right. This requirement only applies if information is already exempt.

There will be less than 1% orders where an exemption is accepted, but disclosure is based on larger public interest. This is because it is an incredibly challenging decision for any officer to make, weighing potential harm to an individual against the broader public benefit of disclosure. Therefore, relying on this clause to ensure transparency after the amendment is largely futile.

Apathy and a call to action

Despite the gravity of these amendments, there has been a notable lack of public and media outcry when compared to previous RTI changes, such as those concerning Commissioner's salaries and tenures. This apathy may be due to the amendment being "under the guise of data protection", making it seem less threatening to the average citizen. There is also a common sentiment that an individual's own information should not be shared, regardless of its relevance, leading to an 'ego takes over' mentality.

Sections 8(2) and 44(3) of the DPDP Bill constitute a "very fundamental regression on our democracy" and a "very fundamental attack on our fundamental rights".

There needs to be a focus on four issues. First, media and citizen engagement – there must be widespread public discussion across the country. Second, political accountability – citizens should demand assurances from political parties in their election manifestos that these amendments will be reversed. Third, public opinion – it is crucial to build strong public opinion with the support of the media. Fourth, recognition of gravity – this issue deserves as much attention as any other critical national debate, as the fundamental right to information is being compromised.

If citizens continue to remain silent, they will imperil their freedom and democracy. Collective action can lead to these changes being reversed. The future of transparency and accountability in India hinges on whether citizens and media can push back and protect the integrity of the RTI Act.

Property rights, tribals and the gender parity gap

Shalini Saboo

is Junior Fellow, Prime Ministers Museum and Library, Teen Murti House, New Delhi

It is over a month since International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples was observed on August 9, but it is still not late to ponder over the rights of India's indigenous population. The proposition becomes all the more topical following a judgment of the Supreme Court of India on July 17, 2025. In *Ram Charan and Ors. vs Sukhram and Ors.*, the Bench of Justice Sanjay Karol and Justice Joymalya Bagchi equated the exclusion of daughters in ancestral property to be a negation of their fundamental right to equality. Thus, looking at the issue of a tribal woman's property rights through the lens of gender equality becomes significant. It is a matter of deep gender injustice that most tribal women (except in the north-east where there is matriliny in some tribes) do not have pieces of legislation giving them statutory rights in ancestral property.

Plea of equal share

In this case, the appellant-plaintiffs were the legal heirs of Dhaiya, a Scheduled Tribe (ST) woman in Sarguja district, Chhattisgarh, who sought partition of a property that belonged to their maternal grandfather, Bhajju alias Bhajan Gond. Their mother (one of the six children – five sons and a daughter), they claimed, was entitled to an equal share. The cause of action arose in October 1992 when the defendant refused to make a partition. The appellant-plaintiffs approached the trial court seeking a declaration of title and partition of the suit property, which was dismissed on the ground that no such custom existed in the Gond tribe where female heirs are given rights in ancestral property.

After being rejected by the first Appellate court and Trial court, the plea then came before the Chhattisgarh High Court. In so far as the argument of the appellant-plaintiff that they had adopted Hindu traditions and so be granted such rights according to the Hindu Succession Act, it was held that since there was no evidence on record, the Trial Court and the First Appellate Court had rejected this contention. However, it granted Dahiya's legal heirs an equal share in the property stating that denying the female heir a right in property under the garb of customs only exacerbated gender discrimination – which the law should weed out.

> It is a matter of deep gender injustice that most tribal women do not have statutory rights in ancestral property

In *Madhu Kishwar and Ors. vs State Of Bihar and Ors.* (1996), a petition had raised the issue of parity between female and male tribal members in the matter of intestate succession. This pertained to customary laws excluding women from inheritance of land or property. The majority judgment of the Supreme Court refused to strike down the provisions as violative of the right to equality, stating that this would cause chaos in the existing law.

Laws in Scheduled Five Area States

In matters of marriage, succession and adoption, tribals in Scheduled Areas are governed by their customary laws. Despite women contributing more in farms than the men, none of the tribal customary laws prevalent in the Scheduled Five Area States (which also includes Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Odisha) give land inheritance rights to females in ancestral properties. The All India Report on Agriculture Census 2015-16 shows that 16.7% of ST women possess land when compared to ST men (83.3%).

It is also argued that in tribal society, land is a communitarian property, where there cannot be an individual owner. But, it rarely happens that money received against the sale or acquisition of tribal lands goes to the gram sabha of villages. The fear of tribal women marrying non-tribal men, leading to land alienation, is another reason for denying women land inheritance rights. The fact that the nature of land remains indigenous despite its transfer to non-tribal as it happens in forest land is to be understood before any such denial.

Any custom must pass the test of parameters such as antiquity, certainty, continuity, reasonableness and conformity with public policy in order to be transformed into a law. A court of law can verify the legality of a custom based on these. A similar situation arose in *Prabha Minz Daughter Of Late Saran Linda vs (A) Martha Ekka Wife Of Late Ajit Ekka* (2022), where the Jharkhand High Court historically decided in favour of property rights of women of the Oraon tribe in the State as the defendant failed to prove that there was any custom in the Oraon community of Jharkhand where daughters have been continually deprived of inheritance rights in paternal property.

A case for a separate act

The Supreme Court took an affirmative stand on tribal women's property rights, in *Kamala Neti (Dead) Thr. Lrs. vs Special Land Acquisition Officer*, on December 9, 2022, which was one of the first steps towards celebrating the beginning of gender parity in property rights among the tribal women. If Section 2(2) of the Hindu Succession Act, 2005 excludes tribal women from its purview, why not have a separate Tribal Succession Act made for tribals? Codification of tribal laws on the lines of Hindus and Christians can also help resolve the issue substantially.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

In Nepal

Nepal is facing possibly its worst political turmoil. Following the youth-led protests, curfews and disrupted services reflect the fragile situation. India must act with careful diplomacy by supporting peace, democracy and early elections, taking care to avoid any perception of interference. Stability in Nepal is vital.

Hammad Noori,
Mumbai

India must be wary of the developments in Nepal — in fact, the neighbourhood. New Delhi must extend all the aid it possibly can. Nepal must be represented by a democratic government. The Army is no entity to settle the issues in the current scenario.

Manas Agarwal,
Shahjahanpur, Uttar Pradesh

The protests, led by 'Gen Z', signal a restless generation demanding accountability. While it is uncertain whether it will see success, the movement is not insignificant. It has shown the power of youth in demanding a future in which they can have faith. It is crucial that this type of 'energy' is nurtured.

Vaibhav Kochar,
Ludhiana, Punjab

The protests were led by 'Gen Z', the generation of 'digital natives' who have grown up with the Internet, smartphones and social media. A dismissive, complacent and even somnambulant regime will get its wake-up call sooner rather than later. When avenues of protest are closed or stonewalled, the populace will let off steam — only in an explosion.

R. Thomas Paul,
Bengaluru

Break this link

It is ironic that Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who promptly nominated Israel's strong backer U.S. President Donald Trump for the Nobel Peace Prize, has ensured that Mr. Trump's 'Nobel goal' may be dashed following Israel's attack on Qatar. This could create a new headache for America by fuelling yet another crisis of confidence among Arab states on the U.S.'s ability to play a meaningful role in West Asia. It is clear that deleterious tendencies that have crept into democracies linking domestic political exigencies to foreign policy actions. This needs to end.

Girija Kumar,
Chennai

'Made of Madras'

I have been following the 'Made of Chennai' column — on the nostalgic memories of celebrities and achievers in different fields. But one of the most important pillars of *The Hindu* since its founding is its readers, who have been steadfast in their support. Perhaps the daily can feature readers and their memories about the evolution of Madras.

A.V. Narayanan,
Chennai

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address.

Helping hands: Rescue work in progress at Kanwan Wali Village, in Fazilka. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

After the disaster

Punjab's floods have taken 55 lives and left thousands of people homeless. **Vikas Vasudeva** reports on the anxiety around the loss of farm produce and jobs. People in relief camps wonder when they can return home and worry about the condition of their houses and belongings collected over years of work and struggle

The dark monsoon clouds that hung over Fazilka have given way to sunlight that filters through the eucalyptus trees surrounding the government middle school at Salem Shah village. Kirna Rani, 22, cannot enjoy it. She sits on the floor of the corridor, gently stirring a saucepan of water and a flour-jaggery mixture over a shared mini-gas-cylinder stove.

These are emergency rations, given to those who were forced out of their homes in Punjab's floods that killed 55 and left thousands homeless. Heavy rains put the Sutlej, Ravi, and Beas rivers in spate, and they soon overflowed their banks inundating low-lying areas and farmland.

Rani and her family of four, along with a dozen other people from her village, who had been at the school that was transformed into a camp overnight, feel the weight of uncertainty. "The water started to rise in the Sutlej close to our village, somewhere in early August. Initially, it was rising slowly and we didn't anticipate that it would suddenly swell," she remembers.

The night after Raksha Bandhan, on August 10, when women tie threads on their brothers' wrists for protection, she says water gushed into their three-room house in Dona Sakandri village in Fazilka district. They waded through knee-deep water, most of their belongings destroyed, yet clinging to the hope that the water would recede. "For a few days, we stayed inside the house. We climbed on tables and tried to survive," she says. They realised their paddy crop, planted across 5-6 acres had been submerged and destroyed.

The Army rescued families by boat, taking them to Kawan Wali Pattan village across the Sutlej. Dona Sakandri and about a dozen other villages lie between the Sutlej and the Pakistan border. A bridge connects them to the rest of India, but the river raged over it. This strip of land was impacted during Operation Sindoor, in May, when schools were closed and villages underwent safety drills.

Rani's two children, three-year-old Tavanjot and Harsimrat Kaur, who is still a baby, huddle close to her hoping to get their favourite meal soon.

"It's difficult to stay in the camp for long, but there's no other option. We don't know how long we will have to stay here. I don't know whether our house is even intact. Nothing will be the same as before," she says, hoping the government will compensate them.

The relief camp at the school building is one of 111, sheltering 4,600 people, set up in the flood-affected areas of Punjab, the country's grain bowl. Besides Fazilka, Gurdaspur, Amritsar, Hoshiarpur, Kapurthala, Jalandhar, Ludhiana, and Ferozepur, were all impacted.

People still remember the floods of 1988, when several hundreds died here, a part of devastation across several States in north India. This time, according to the State government, almost 4 lakh people have been affected in about 2,200 villages across Punjab.

> As the water level has started to go down, the sight of destruction is slowly revealing itself.
>
> **BALWANT SINGH**
> Sarpanch of Jhangar Bhaini

Boats and bridges

Sham Singh, 36, from Rete Wali Bhaini village, doesn't own land and works as a daily wage labourer on farms. "My house has been badly damaged by the floodwater. With most farmland under water, I have no work. For the past couple of weeks, my family (of five) has been here at the camp, but I am worried about how I will sustain them once the camps are closed," says Singh, the sole breadwinner.

Balwant Singh, 65, a farm labourer from Teja Ruhela village, says,"A big problem for most of us living in the village is that land is not registered in our name. Most families settled here after the Partition (India-Pakistan in 1947). Many of us will not get financial relief as we do not have any documents. Where do we go? What do we do?"

Punjab received 253.7 mm of rain in August, which was 74% in excess of normal, according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD). Now, the floodwaters recede with the retreating monsoon, but people's lives are not returning to what they were used to.

Chand Singh, 65, from Ram Singh Bhaini village, gauges the current of the water flow before he takes a call to walk over the bridge from Kawan Wali Pattan village. Chand says, "For the first time in years, I have seen water flowing over this bridge. The water has receded now, but the current is still strong, so I'll take a boat." He has been able to stay, because water didn't enter his house. He crossed the river in the morning to get a few medicines and rations.

His neighbour, Sukhvinder Singh, 30, rues that while the administration has provided manually operated boats, villagers have to row the boats by themselves. Most are not trained to do this, which puts their lives at risk, he says. "There's also a shortage of safety jackets," says Sukhvinder, a daily wager. He has come with Chand to replenish fodder and cattle medicine stocks.

"Relocating cattle to dry, high ground has been challenging. Teams of veterinarians have been paying visits, but the situation requires more attention. Also, there's a shortage of cooking gas cylinders now, forcing many to share the limited supplies," he says.

Survival through the storm

As relief efforts continue, the residents face the dual challenge of immediate displacement and long-term livelihood loss. Mukhtiar Singh, 50, a school cab driver, is anxious about his family's sustenance amid the crisis. "I have a family of eight to support and our meagre savings are nearly depleted. The floods have submerged my village and surrounding areas. I can't drive my school cab, and with no work available for my two sons, who are daily wagers, our situation is dire," he says.

Balwant Singh, the Sarpanch (village head) of Jhangar Bhaini, feels that the miseries have in fact just begun. "As the water level has started to go down, the sight of destruction is slowly revealing itself. In my village, there are around 270 houses and almost all of them have suffered damage, completely or partially and the entire crop has been lost. Animal carcasses can be seen at some places, the stench is unbearable and there is a growing fear of disease outbreak." He says the administration is working hard to provide relief though.

Fazilka's Deputy Commissioner Amarpreet Kaur Sandhu points out that of 30 relief camps immediately set up in the district, 14 remain active, sheltering 2,946 people. "Till September 9, about 12,539 ration kits have been given to affected families. Additionally, 6,190 bags of cattle feed have been distributed for livestock," she says. Many people have brought their cattle to the relief camps, and the government is supplying green fodder for their feed.

Fields of water

In Gurdaspur, another flood-ravaged district, which accounts for the bulk of agricultural losses, the water levels in the Ravi have gradually gone down. However, farmers like Gurinderpal Singh, 48, from Kalanaur village are worried about the next season's losses. The rice crop and the investment has sunk, and he says the ground will be too wet to plant the winter wheat crop.

"My paddy crop was under 3-4 feet of floodwater for days, leaving it completely ruined. We usually sow wheat in late October and early November here, but it will be difficult this time. Late sowing will result in low yield, which again means loss," says Gurinderpal, who had sown paddy in around 70 acres of land on lease. This year, crops have been damaged on at least 1.91 lakh hectares spread over 18 of the 23 districts of the State, the government says.

The Punjab monsoon season, welcomed after the dry summer of May and June, when temperatures soar into the 40-degrees, gives the State 75% of its annual rainfall. A State government assessment points out Punjab's vulnerability to recurring floods, seen in 2023, 2019, 2013, 2010, 2008, and 2004.

Devinderjeet Singh, 51, a farmer in Manawalan Kalan village of Amritsar district, explains that heavy rains and gusty winds have adversely impacted his Basmati, the aromatic, long-grain rice crop. The cost of harvesting has also shot up. "As the rain spells continued till the first week of September, the harvesting of whatever crop is left has also been delayed. I usually harvest Basmati in the last week of July," Devinderjeet says.

He is now using combine machines with chains, designed for harvesting on moist land, which has increased his farming cost. "I have to shell out ₹6,000 per acre for using these machines. Otherwise it would have been ₹2,000 an acre," says Devinderjeet, who has sown rice in around 75 acres of land.

Politics in a crisis

Amid the flood catastrophe, political parties continue to point fingers at each other. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who on September 9 travelled to Punjab, announced financial assistance package of ₹1,600 crore for the State. Soon after, the ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) termed the amount as "meagre and insufficient".

Punjab Cabinet Minister and AAP president Aman Arora accused the Prime Minister of delivering a "cruel joke" in the name of the relief package to the people of Punjab instead of the meaningful national response they had hoped for, noting the State was staring at losses exceeding ₹20,000 crore. Punjab Congress president Amarinder Singh Raja Warring described the relief package as "miserably meagre", similar to "a drop in the ocean".

The Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD), urged the Prime Minister to enhance the financial assistance, while questioning the AAP about the ₹12,000 crore available to the State government under the State Disaster Management Fund (SDRF). "Punjabis want to know the whereabouts of the ₹12,000 crore referred to by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to flood-affected areas. This money was to be used to provide speedy aid to the flood affected, but now the State is asserting that it does not have this money," noted senior SAD leader Daljit Singh Cheema.

Blaming the AAP for "squandering away ₹12,000 crore of SDRF received from Centre, on publicity stunts and other purposes," Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) State president Sunil Jakhar said, "The money has not been utilised for flood mitigation efforts."

Reacting to the charges, Punjab Cabinet Minister Harpal Singh Cheema has accused the BJP of deliberately misleading the public on disaster relief funds. "BJP leaders have been shamelessly peddling lies to defame the AAP government. The truth is before the people, and every single rupee received and spent from SDRF is in the public domain," he said, in a statement.

Residents of Salem Shah at a relief camp, in Fazilka, Punjab, after the floods. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

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From Page One

Karki is Nepal's first woman Prime Minister

Nepal's tech-savvy Gen Z, frustrated with the political class for their years of misrule and flashy, luxurious lifestyles, hit the streets on Monday (September 8). At least 19 people were killed in a brutal response by the Oli government, which triggered further protests and a sweeping social media ban. On Tuesday (September 9), the protests turned violent, as demonstrators stormed politicians' homes, set them on fire, and manhandled the leaders. They also burned down key government infrastructure – the Supreme Court, Parliament, and Singha Durbar, the seat of the government – in a symbolic takeover of the state.

As the protests escalated, Mr. Oli stepped down and has been under Army protection since. After much deliberation, the campaigners locked in Ms. Karki's name to lead a civilian government to clean up the mess created by political parties and lead the country. Now that Ms. Karki has been given the helm of the country, a daunting task rests on her shoulders – staying true to the demands of Gen Z and overseeing elections to hand over power to a newly elected democratic government.

Anti-corruption crusader

Ms. Karki is widely regarded as clean and upright, with many even calling her an anti-corruption crusader. She holds a master's degree in political science from Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, and a law degree from Tribhuvan University. After serving as Acting Chief Justice from April 13 to July 10, 2016, she was appointed Chief Justice on July 11, 2016. She retired on June 7, 2017.

Lok Raj Baral, a professor and former Ambassador of Nepal to India, says that in the current context, the selection of Ms. Karki is wholly justified.

"The immediate challenges for her would be to maintain law and order, boost confidence among all organs of the state, and oversee elections," said Mr. Baral, author of *Nepal: From Monarchy to Republic*, in an interview with *The Hindu*. "With her clean image and upright personality, I believe she will be able to carry out the task of peacefully handing over power."

Top priorities

After assuming office, Ms. Karki will need to form a Cabinet by appointing Ministers to carry out essential functions of government while leading the country toward elections.

Mr. Adhikari says the first two priorities of the interim government should be an independent investigation and prosecution of those responsible for the September 8 carnage, and a criminal investigation into those who carried out attacks and arson against state infrastructure. "The interim head also needs to pave the way for constitutional reforms to strengthen democracy and accountability," he added.

(Sanjeev Satgainya is a journalist based in Kathmandu.)

Retail inflation rises to 2.1% after 9-month drop

"Within food products, the main drivers of low inflation are vegetables and pulses which recorded -15.9% and -14.5% respectively," according to a note by the Bank of Baroda's economics research wing. "Oils continue to exert upward pressure with 21.2% inflation due to higher global prices as well as low base effect."

According to Upasna Bhardwaj, Chief Economist at Kotak Mahindra Bank, the GST rate cut impact is likely to play out in the year ahead, partly offsetting the impact of an adverse base effect in 2026-27.

"While we see a pause by the RBI in the upcoming policy, we do see some scope for rate cuts worth 25-50 basis points opening up from December policy if downside risks to growth materialise and the Fed moves ahead with aggressive rate cuts," she said.

Why firecracker ban only in Delhi, says CJI

"We cannot have special treatment for Delhi because the people in Delhi are elite citizens of this country," the CJI remarked.

Senior advocate K. Parameshwar, appearing for the firecracker industry, said their licences are being revoked due to the top court's confirmation of a complete ban on the sale, production and manufacture of firecrackers in Delhi and National Capital Regions (NCR) in April 2025. Some of these licences were valid till 2028.

The court had then found the ban "absolutely necessary" while dismissing applications by traders to reconsider the ban on crackers or even reduce the prohibition to three or four months a year.

The court had reasoned that a ban lasting a few months would not serve any purpose as firecrackers would be stored throughout the year only to be sold and used during the ban period. It had put the onus on the manufacturers to scientifically improve the "so-called green crackers".

"Only if it is shown that bursting of green crackers cause the bare minimum pollution is there a possibility of rethinking the ban imposed through earlier orders of this court," the court had observed in April.

On Friday, the court sought a report from the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) and listed the case after two weeks.

Two Maoists shot dead in Chhattisgarh encounter

The Hindu Bureau
RAIPUR

Two Maoists have been gunned down by security forces in an ongoing operation in Bijapur district of Chhattisgarh, the police said on Friday.

"The bodies of two Maoists have been recovered from the encounter site. Along with this, a .303 rifle, other weapons, explosive materials and items of daily use have also been recovered from the spot," an officer said.

The operation comes a day after the security forces killed 10 Maoists, including a Central Committee member of the banned Communist Party of India (Maoist), Manoj alias Modem Bala Krishna, in the Gariyaband district of the State. Gariaband Superintendent of Police Nikhil Rakhecha said that between them, the 10 Maoists carried a bounty of ₹5.22 crore. Manoj alone carried a cumulative bounty of ₹1.8 crore, he added.

Ending India's Russian oil imports is top priority, says U.S. envoy-designate

Sergio Gor, Trump's pick for Ambassador to India, says the U.S. President is 'crystal clear' on the issue; U.S. Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick says it is a pre-condition for any negotiations on the free trade agreement to be successful

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Sergio Gor said that India and the U.S. are not that far apart from a deal on the 50% tariffs that was imposed on India. REUTERS

Getting India to stop buying Russian oil is a "top priority", U.S. President Donald Trump's Ambassador-designate to India Sergio Gor told U.S. Senators at his confirmation hearing on Thursday, indicating that despite a recent U.S. outreach to India to restart trade ties, Russian imports will continue to be an issue.

Mr. Gor said that Mr. Trump had made it "crystal clear" that India would have to end all imports of Russian oil, which make up about 35% to 40% of India's intake.

U.S. Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick also said that trade negotiations would be resolved "once" India stops buying the oil, suggesting this was a pre-condition for any deal.

"Getting India to stop buying Russian oil is a top priority for this administration," Mr. Gor said, responding to questions from members of the U.S. Foreign Relations Committee. "President Trump has made it crystal clear that India must stop buying Russian oil," he added.

Mr. Gor added that India and the U.S. are "not that far apart" from a deal on the 50% tariffs that the U.S. has imposed on India.

"I do think it will get resolved in the next few weeks," Mr. Gor said, also indicating that Mr. Trump was committed to travelling to India for the Quad Summit, and has invited Indian Commerce and Trade officials to Washington next week to resume talks on a free trade agreement.

Mr. Lutnick, who has been sharply critical of India, said that the U.S. President had termed India's purchase of Russian oil as "nonsense". "India has to basically open its market, and stop buying Russian oil," Mr. Lutnick told reporters in one of a series of interviews he gave on Friday.

The comments by U.S. officials come days after Mr. Trump posted that he expected "no difficulty" in coming to an agreement on trade. It is unclear whether he endorsed the statements linking the FTA to Russian oil imports.

In an interview to *Fox News* on Friday, Mr. Trump said imposing tariffs on India for buying Russian oil is not an easy thing to do, and it "causes a rift with India." "Look, India was their biggest customer. I put a 50% tariff on India because they're buying oil from Russia. That's not an easy thing to do. That's a big deal and it causes a rift with India."

Defending its purchase of Russian crude oil, India has been maintaining that its energy procurement is driven by national interest and market dynamics.

In the past few days, two international media agencies – the *Financial Times* and *CNBC TV* – have reported that Mr. Trump told European Union leaders in a call that they must impose "100% tariffs" on India and China for their purchases of Russian oil. However, EU trade negotiators and Commissioners currently in Delhi for trade talks have made no comment on the issue. Diplomatic sources told *The Hindu* that the EU does impose sanctions, but does not weaponise tariffs as the U.S. has been doing.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) declined to comment on the statements made by Mr. Gor and Mr. Lutnick. Government officials have denied any plans to cancel Indian oil imports from Russia, insisting that they will take decisions based on India's market interests.

Imphal, Churachandpur decked up to greet PM on first visit since ethnic conflict erupted

Vijaita Singh
IMPHAL/CHURACHANDPUR

Tight security arrangements are under way at Kangla Western Gate on the eve of Narendra Modi's arrival in Imphal on Tuesday. ANI

As Prime Minister Narendra Modi is all set to visit Manipur on Saturday, his first since ethnic violence erupted in the State in May 2023, Imphal and Churachandpur – the two places where he is expected to lead a roadshow and address a gathering of thousands of people – are fortified with heavy security presence every 100 metres.

Mr. Modi will also inaugurate projects worth ₹8,500 crore in the hill and valley districts and meet those displaced from their homes after the ethnic violence between the Meitei and the Kuki-Zo people erupted on May 3, 2023.

Around 250 people have been killed and more than 60,000 displaced in the violence which has erupted in phases.

Mr. Modi posted on X on Friday that the government is "fully committed to furthering inclusive and all-round development of Manipur."

Though the visit was being planned for days, as reported by *The Hindu* on September 2, it was officially announced by the Prime Minister's Office and the State administration only on Friday.

The PM will first arrive at the Peace Ground at Churachandpur town in the hills around 11.30 a.m. on Saturday. The sidewalk along the road leading to the ground was covered in yards of tricolour with posters put up by civil society groups welcoming him.

In State capital Imphal, the State administration has put up huge hoardings and posters of the PM along the seven-km stretch from airport to Kangla Fort. Mr. Modi will address a gathering of around 15,000 people at Kangla Fort, a place of cultural and political significance for Manipur.

Churachandpur, where Kuki-Zo people live, and Imphal, a stronghold of Meitei people, are 61 km apart. While people in Churachandpur are visibly enthusiastic about Mr. Modi's visit, many in Imphal, though they welcome the visit, are sceptical.

A BJP legislator in Imphal said on condition of anonymity, "Though the Prime Minister's visit is happening after two-and-a-half years [after the violence broke out], it brings us hope for peace in the future...The projects he is going to announce are likely to usher in some development."

'Visit merely symbolic'

Manipur Congress president K. Meghachandra Singh said the visit was only for a symbolic purpose. "They should have a concrete roadmap to bring peace in the State. People are in despair; they are still living in relief camps. People are suffering. It is unfortunate that he has not visited the State for the last 28 months, there is no free movement of people [on highways]," Mr. Singh said.

The Kuki-Zo Council, the conglomerate of Kuki-Zo-Hmar tribal groups in the State said that the "visit will open a new chapter of hope, recognition, and meaningful engagement" for the Kuki-Zo community, and urged all sections of society to join hands in making the visit "a historic and memorable occasion".

Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla will accompany the Prime Minister at both the locations.

A statement by the Prime Minister's Office said that Mr. Modi will also inaugurate several development projects worth more than ₹1,200 crore at Imphal and worth over ₹7,300 crore at Churachandpur.

Vote theft is key issue, not PM's Manipur visit: Rahul

Abhinay Deshpande
AHMEDABAD

Congress leader and Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, on Friday downplayed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's scheduled visit to Manipur, asserting that his trip to the strife-torn State is "not a big deal" and that the central issue facing the country is "vote *chori*" (vote theft).

Interacting with the presspersons outside the Keshod airport in Gujarat's Junagadh district, Mr. Gandhi claimed that citizens across India are raising the "vote *chor*" (vote thief) slogan.

"Manipur has been in trouble for a long time and the PM has decided to go there now. So that's not a big deal. The main issue today in India is vote *chori*," the MP stated in response to questions about the PM's upcoming trip.

Centre to hold meeting on creating more special courts

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Union government informed the Supreme Court on Friday that a high-level meeting will be scheduled with representatives of the various Central law enforcement agencies, Chief Secretaries and Home Secretaries of States for the setting up of exclusive courts to expeditiously try offences under special statutes, including the National Intelligence Agency and Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Acts.

A Bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi has made it clear that trial proceedings under special statutes cannot be delayed due to the overwhelming pendency in regular courts.

Additional Solicitor General Aishwarya Bhati, for the Centre, had informed the top court that out of 52 designated courts, only three were exclusively trying NIA cases.

V-C told to include sexual harassment judgment in resume

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The court gave the order even as it held that the complaint was filed beyond the prescribed period

The Supreme Court on Friday directed West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences Vice-Chancellor Nirmal Kanti Chakrabarti to make its judgment part of his resume personally even as it confirmed that a sexual harassment complaint filed by a faculty member against him in 2019 was time-barred. The court said it should nevertheless "haunt" him forever.

The complaints committee had rejected the complaint on a finding that the last alleged incident of sexual harassment occurred in April 2023. The complaint was filed on December 26, 2023, which was not only beyond the prescribed limitation period of three months but also beyond the extendable period of six months.

A Bench of Justices Pankaj Mithal and P.B. Varale observed, "It is advisable to forgive the wrongdoer, but not to forget the wrongdoing." "The wrong which has been committed against the appellant [faculty member] may not be investigated on technical grounds, but it must not be forgotten," Justice Mithal, who authored the verdict, wrote.

"In this view of the matter, we direct that the incidents of alleged sexual harassment on part of respondent no.1 [Chakrabarti] may be forgiven but allowed to haunt the wrongdoer forever. Thus, it is directed that this judgment shall be made part of the resume of respondent no.1, compliance of which shall be strictly ensured by him personally," the court said.

Bomb hoax at two High Courts affects proceedings

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI/MUMBAI

Two of the country's premier High Courts in Delhi and Mumbai witnessed unusual disruption on Friday after both received bomb threat emails within hours of each other. In both cases, the courts were evacuated, hearings were adjourned, and massive security checks were carried out before the police declared the threats a hoax.

The first scare came in Delhi in the morning when the High Court's official email ID received a mail at around 8.38 a.m. warning of explosions inside the judges' chambers and courtrooms.

Barely a few hours later, around 1 p.m., panic struck the Bombay High Court after it too received a threat mail. Mumbai Police Zone 1 DCP Pravin Mundhe confirmed it was a hoax and that the court proceedings resumed at 3 p.m.

Delhi riots case: SC defers hearing on bail pleas of activists

Aaratrika Bhaumik
NEW DELHI

The court said they were unable to examine the case records as the files reached them only after midnight

The Supreme Court on Friday adjourned to September 19 the hearing on the bail pleas of activist Sharjeel Imam, former Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) scholar Umar Khalid, and others in the larger conspiracy case linked to the 2020 Delhi riots.

A Bench of Justices Aravind Kumar and N.V. Anjaria said they had been unable to examine the case records as the files reached them only after midnight. "We received the files in these matters at 2.30 a.m.," the Bench said. Senior advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi appeared for Mr. Imam, while senior advocate Kapil Sibal represented Mr. Khalid. "Four matters are listed before the court today, all of them arising from the same High Court judgment," Mr. Sibal said.

The petitions challenge the September 2 verdict of the Delhi High Court denying bail. A Division Bench of Justices Navin Chawla and Shalinder Kaur had held that the accused played "*prima facie* grave" roles in the conspiracy.

Besides Mr. Imam and Mr. Khalid, the High Court had denied bail to activists Gulfisha Fatima, Khalid Saifi, Athar Khan, Mohd. Saleem Khan, Shifa-ur-Rehman, Meeran Haider, and Shadab Ahmed, accepting the prosecution's contention that the riots were not "a regular protest" but a "premeditated, well-orchestrated conspiracy." The bail plea of another accused, Tasleem Ahmed, was rejected by a different High Court Bench on September 2.

C.P. Radhakrishnan takes oath as 15th Vice-President of India

He holds meeting with floor leaders of parties in Parliament; Trinamool Congress, BJD, and some other parties stay away citing short notice; predecessor Jagdeep Dhankhar attends ceremony, his first public appearance since resignation in July

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

Chandrapuram Ponnusamy Radhakrishnan was sworn in as the 15th Vice-President of India on Friday. President Droupadi Murmu administered the oath of office at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in the presence of several dignitaries.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, former Vice-Presidents Jagdeep Dhankhar and Hamid Ansari, Cabinet Ministers, and Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha and Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge attended the ceremony. This marked Mr. Dhankhar's first public appearance since his resignation on July 21, citing health reasons.

Mr. Dhankhar, accompanied by his wife Sudesh Dhankhar, was seated in the front row along with Mr. Ansari, M. Venkaiah Naidu, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, and Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis. He stayed on for tea after the ceremony, where he was greeted by Cabinet members and engaged by the Opposition leaders on his health.

Newly-elected Vice-President C.P. Radhakrishnan greeting his predecessor Jagdeep Dhankhar at the Rashtrapati Bhavan. PTI

According to sources, there was some disquiet over seating arrangements. Mr. Kharge was placed in the second row, while floor leaders of other Opposition parties were seated in the fifth row. Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde was seated in the fourth row. At the conclusion of the event, Mr. Modi posted on X: "Attended the oath-taking ceremony of Thiru C.P. Radhakrishnan Ji. A dedicated public servant, he has devoted his life to nation-building, social service, and strengthening democratic values. Wishing him a successful Vice-Presidential tenure, dedicated to the service of people."

Mr. Radhakrishnan, who later assumed charge as the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, held a meeting with floor leaders of parties in Parliament. The Trinamool Congress, Biju Janata Dal, NCP (SP), and Shiv Sena (UBT) skipped the meeting, citing short notice. Mr. Radhakrishnan reportedly told members he intended to take the Opposition along in running the House. "I am very patient," he is learnt to have said, noting his long experience as an Opposition leader in Tamil Nadu. He emphasised that the Opposition is an essential element of parliamentary democracy. He also recalled his political journey, prompting some leaders to remind him that his grandfather was aligned with the Left while his uncle was with the Congress.

After the swearing-in, Mr. Radhakrishnan paid floral tributes to Mahatma Gandhi at Rajghat. He also paid homage to former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee at Sadaiv Atal and former Prime Minister Charan Singh at Kisan Ghat. He visited Prerna Sthal at Parliament House, where statues displaced due to the construction of the new Parliament building have been relocated.

BJP criticises Congress for posting AI-generated video of PM's late mother

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI/PATNA

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Friday slammed the Congress party for posting an AI-generated video of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his late mother, Heeraben Modi, on social media. The video was posted on X by the Congress's Bihar unit.

Stating that the people of India would teach a "lifetime lesson" to the Congress, Union Minister Kiren Rijiju said it had lost its credibility and the trust of the people.

"No wonder the Congress party is continuously losing elections. They are not learning any lessons even from being rejected by the public. The Congress party will never be able to understand the sacred meaning of the Indian mother," he said.

Narendra Modi

Union Minister Giriraj Singh said Congress leader Rahul Gandhi had stooped to a new low.

"The way Modi *ji*'s mother has been shown in the AI video needs to be investigated and legal action should be taken against those responsible for disrespecting the PM's mother," Mr. Singh said.

Former Union Minister and senior BJP MP Ravi Shankar Prasad posted on X: "This reflects the declining level of the Congress party's values and political decorum... Congress-RJD should remember that Bihar will never forgive those who insult mothers-daughters and the brave sons of Mother India."

Through its X handle, the BJP said: "For the Congress, the country is merely a hub for politics and the people nothing but a vote bank, but for PM Modi, this nation is his mother and the citizens his family, for whom he has devoted himself completely."

'Nothing disrespectful'

The Congress said no disrespect had been shown to the Prime Minister or his late mother. "What is their objection? Just because a mother is trying to educate the son to do something right, where is it disrespectful, neither to the mother, whom we respect dearly, nor to the son," Congress's media and publicity department head Pawan Khera said.

RJD leader Tejashwi set to embark on five-day Bihar Adhikar Yatra next week

Amarnath Tewary
PATNA

After the success of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's 14-day Voter Adhikar Yatra in poll-bound Bihar, which criss-crossed about 110 Assembly constituencies across 24 districts, Rashtriya Janata Dal leader Tejashwi Yadav is all set to embark on a five-day Bihar Adhikar Yatra from September 16.

The yatra will begin in Jehanabad district and culminate in Vaishali district on September 20.

The yatra led by the Leader of the Opposition in the State Assembly will cover 10 districts that were not included during Mr. Gandhi's yatra.

Big outreach: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi with RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav during the recent Voter Adhikar Yatra in Bihar. PTI

Mr. Yadav, who is widely considered to be the chief ministerial face of the Opposition *Mahagathbandhan* (grand alliance), would also address a public meeting in each constituency during his visit.

The yatra will cover the districts of Jehanabad, Nalanda, Patna, Begusarai, Khagaria, Madhepura, Saharsa, Supaul, Samastipur, and Vaishali, said Mr. Sahu, who is also the party's State principal general secretary. About 60 Assembly constituencies will be covered.

Public meet in Patna

The *Mahagathbandhan* leaders are likely to hold a public meeting at the historic Gandhi Maidan in Patna before Assembly elections in which all alliance party leaders would be present.

SC asks Centre, EC to reply to plea for regulating parties

Aaratrika Bhaumik
NEW DELHI

Petitioner seeks all registered political parties to be listed as respondents

The Supreme Court on Friday sought responses from the Union government and the Election Commission on a plea seeking a statutory framework to regulate political parties and curb their alleged misuse as channels for black money and criminal enterprise.

A Bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi issued notice on the petition filed by advocate Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay, while suggesting that all registered political parties be arrayed as respondents since any eventual directions would directly affect them.

"...We will issue notice, but one problem may arise. You have not impleaded political parties. They will say that you are asking to regulate them and they aren't here," the Bench said.

Mr. Upadhyay has urged the court to direct the polling body to frame comprehensive rules for the registration and functioning of political parties, and for the Centre to enact legislation to curb the "menace of corruption, casteism, communalism, criminalisation, and money laundering in politics".

The petition relies on recent income tax raids to underscore how little-known political outfits are allegedly being used as vehicles for laundering unaccounted wealth. It has also been contended that political parties, despite wielding significant power, are not treated as "public authorities".

Shooting reels banned within high security zone of SC

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court of India has banned photography, shooting social media reels and videos within its high security zone premises.

The court's circular was in response to repeated complaints received from various quarters, including lawyers' bodies, about indiscriminate videography and photography, mostly through mobile phones, inside the high security zone.

21% legislators have dynastic background, says report

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Around 21% or one in five MPs, MLAs, and MLCs are from dynastic backgrounds, indicating that a significant share of current elected representatives belong to established political families, according to an analysis by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR).

At 31%, the Lok Sabha has the highest dynastic representation, while the State Assemblies have the lowest at 20%.

The data include a total of 5,204 legislators across State Assemblies, the Lok Sabha, the Rajya Sabha, and State Legislative Councils. Among them, 1,107 are from dynastic backgrounds.

In north India, Uttar Pradesh tops the list at 23%, followed by Rajasthan at 18%. In the south, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh are among the highest at 29% and 34%, respectively. In the east and northeast, Bihar has 27% and Assam 9%.

In absolute numbers, Uttar Pradesh ranks the highest with 141 (23%) out of its 604 MPs, MLAs and MLCs having dynastic political backgrounds, followed by Maharashtra with 129 (32%) out of its 403 sitting MPs, MLAs and MLCs. In Bihar, 96 out of 360 representatives are from dynastic backgrounds.

Jagdeep Chhokar, co-founder of ADR, passes away at 81

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

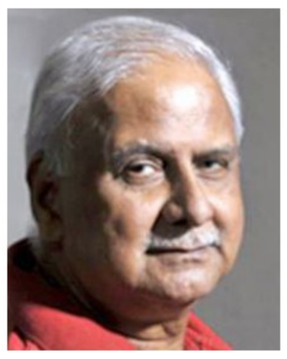
Jagdeep S. Chhokar, co-founder of the non-governmental organisation Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), passed away in Delhi on Friday. He was 81.

A relentless pursuer of democratic reforms, he was also a teacher, researcher, writer, bird-watcher, conservationist, and a trained lawyer.

Professor Chhokar began his career in the Indian Railways and was drawn into academia after pursuing an MBA from the Faculty of Management Studies, Delhi University. He completed his Ph.D from the Louisiana State University, following which he joined the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad as a Professor of organisational behaviour in 1985. He retired in November 2006.

But what brought him to public life was his activism for improving democracy and governance in the country. In 1999, along with a few of his IIM colleagues, including Trilochan Sastry, he founded the ADR, which has since played a critical role in enhancing transparency in Indian elections for over two decades.

The ADR has won several notable cases in the Supreme Court, including the one which paved the way for the scrapping of the electoral bonds scheme. It is one of the key petitioners in the challenge to the ongoing special intensive revision of electoral rolls in Bihar.


Jagdeep S. Chhokar

Since his retirement, he had also been associated with Aajeevika Bureau, a public service organisation to protect the rights of migrant workers.

The ADR, in a statement, said: "To those who knew him, he was more than an advocate for clean politics, he was a generous mentor, an incisive thinker, and a warm friend. He was a fearless and honest lone but the loudest voice in the room. Colleagues, students, and those who worked alongside him remember him as patient yet persistent, principled and relentlessly committed to public accountability."

Former Chief Election Commissioner S.Y. Quraishi described him as a "crusader for clean elections". He is survived by his wife Kiran.

GREATER VISAKHAPATNAM MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
Tender Notice No. 16/2025-26/SE(WSM)/E.E-II (WSM)/DB-II & DB-III/ dt.:10-09-2025.
Number of works- 3 Works, Value of Works (ECV): Rs.329.80 Lakhs
Downloading Starting Date- 11-09-2025, Downloading Ending Date- 26-09-2025
Bid submission closing date- 26-09-2025, Technical Qualification Stage- 26-09-2025
Price bid (Commercial stage)- 29-09-2025.
Note: Further details @ www.apeprocurement.gov.in
O/o. EE-II(WSM)-9948078503 — For Commissioner

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER PHED REGION I JODHPUR
Tele-0291-2651750 E-Mail : rj_acejo@nic.in
No. ACE/PHED/Region-Ist/Jod/TA/2025-26/6881-93 Date:- 26/8/25
Notice Inviting Bid (NIT NO. 12/2025-26)
Bid for following work is invited from interested bidders up to 6.00 pm of 18-09-2025.

S. No.	NIT No.	Work Description	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	Unique Bid No. (UBN)
1	12/2025-26	WORK OF UNINTERRUPTED WATER SUPPLY TO 3 TOWNS AND 319 VILLAGES OF ASSEMBLY CONSTITUENCY PALI, SUMERPUR, SOJAT, MARWAR JUNCTION & JAITARAN DURING BREAKDOWN IN JAWAI PIPELINE UNDER BUDGET ANNOUNCEMENT 2024-25 DISTT PALI	1871.13	PHE2526W-LOB05826

Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in of the state, and PHED department website.
(SAVE WATER-SAVE LIFE)
(Dinesh Kumar Nagori)
ADDL. CHIEF ENGINEER
DIPR/C/12881/2025 — PHED REGION (I) JODHPUR

Office of the Superintending Engineer PWD Circle Sri Ganganagar
E-mail:- sesgnr.pwd@rajasthan.gov.in
No. 1993 Date: 29/8/25
NOTICE INVITING E-BID No. -06/2025-26
(NIB No.-PWD2526A3021)
Bids for "Construction of ML/NP road Distt Sriganganagar (23 package)" is invited from interested bidders from dated 04.09.2025 to 25.09.2025 upto 06.00 PM. The bid will be opened on 26.09.2025 at 11.00 AM. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the state; and pwd.rajasthan.gov.in department website. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs. 6009.07 lacs.
UBN-

PWD2526WSOB11375	PWD2526WSOB11377	PWD2526WSOB11378
PWD2526WSOB11379	PWD2526WSOB11380	PWD2526WSOB11381
PWD2526WSOB11382	PWD2526WSOB11383	PWD2526WSOB11384
PWD2526WSOB11385	PWD2526WSOB11386	PWD2526WSOB11387
PWD2526WSOB11388	PWD2526WSOB11389	PWD2526WSOB11390
PWD2526WSOB11391	PWD2526WSOB11365	PWD2526WSOB11366
PWD2526WSOB11367	PWD2526WSOB11369	PWD2526WSOB11371
PWD2526WSOB11372	PWD2526WSOB11374	

Superintending Engineer
DIPR/C/12993/2025 — PWD Circle Sri Ganganagar

GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (PROJECTS), SOUTH ZONE,
Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, 6th Floor, CC Complex, Tankbund Road, Hyderabad.
'E'-Procurement Tender Notice
Short Tender Notice No.04/SE(P)SZ/GHMC/2025-26 Dated: 12.09.2025
Name of the Work: Consultancy services for Survey, Investigation and preparation of PPR, DPR, cost estimate and tender documents individually for the 5 works (namely Grade Separators at **(a)** TKR College Junction, Gayatri Nagar Junction and Mandamallamma Junction, **(b)** Hafeez Baba Nagar Junction to 100 feet Balapur- Church Road Junction (Omer Hotel to Shoiab Hotel via Metro Function hall), **(c)** Bandlaguda-Errakunta cross road Junction, **(d)** Mailardevpally, Shamshabad road & Kattedan Junctions, **(e)** Independent RUBs at either side of existing RUB at Aramgarh Junction) proposed under H-CITI in LB Nagar to Aramgarh corridor.
Events - Date & Time: **1. Download Start Date:** 15.09.2025 from 05.00 PM; **2. Last Date & Time for submission of Bids:** 23.09.2025 up to 03.00 PM; **3. Technical Bid Opening Date and Time:** 23.09.2025 at 03.30 PM; **4. Price Bid Opening Date and Time:** 25.09.2025 at 03.00 PM; **Address Of the officer concerned:** Superintending Engineer (Projects), South Zone, Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation 6th Floor, CC Complex, Tankbund Road, Hyderabad, Ph: 9154768808. **Email ID: sepsz-ghmc@telangana.gov.in.** Further details can be seen at e-procuremcnt @ **http://tender.telangana.gov.in**
Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Projects),
DIPR R.O.No.7976-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2025-26 Dt. 12.09.2025 — South Zone, GHMC

भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, अंतरिक्ष विभाग / DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
विक्रम साराभाई अंतरिक्ष केंद्र / VIKRAM SARABHAI SPACE CENTRE
निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण ग्रुप / CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP
तिरुवनंतपुरम / THIRUVANANTHAPURAM – 22 / (फोन नं. / Ph. No. 0471 – 2564568 / 4545)
दिनांक/Dated : 12-09-2025
ई-निविदा आमंत्रित करते हुए संक्षिप्त सूचना / BRIEF NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER
भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से, **सम्मिश्र श्रेणी** के अधीन निम्नलिखित कार्यों के लिए ई-टेंडरिंग द्वारा ऑनलाइन मद-दर निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। On behalf of the President of India, online item-rate tenders are invited through E-tendering for the following work under **Composite Category.**
1. क्वडियार, त्रिवांद्रम में अंतरिक्ष संग्रहालय तथा ज्ञान केंद्र के लिए भवन का निर्माण (सिविल तथा विद्युत कार्य) / Construction of building for Space Museum and Knowledge Centre at Kowdiar, Trivandrum (Civil & Electrical works) / **NIT No. VSSC/CMG/C01/10/2025-26 Dt. 09.09.2025, (पी.ए.सी./P.A.C: ₹ 1498.43 लाख/Lakhs)**
डाउनलोड करने की अवधि / Period for downloading : दिनांक 13.09.2025, 10.00 बजे/hrs. से/to दिनांक 27.09.2025, 23.00 बजे/hrs.
ई-निविदा की अवधि बढ़ाना / EXTENSION OF E-TENDER
2. वीएसएससी, तिरुवनंतपुरम के विविध स्थानों पर 960 kWp रूफ टॉप सौर ऊर्जा संयंत्रों की अभिकल्पना, इंजीनियरी, निर्माण, परिवहन, आपूर्ति, संस्थापन, परीक्षण, कमीशनिंग तथा उन्हें सौंपना / Design, Engineering, Manufacturing, Transportation, Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and Handing over of 960 kWp Roof Top Solar power plants at various locations at VSSC, Trivandrum. **NIT No. VSSC/CMG/E01/14/2025-2026 Dated 20.08.2025 (पी.ए.सी./P.A.C: ₹ 579.51 लाख/Lakhs)**
डाउनलोड करने की अवधि / Period for downloading : दिनांक 24.09.2025, 23.00 बजे तक बढ़ाए गए / Extended upto 23:00 hrs. on 24.09.2025
इच्छुक निविदाकार ब्यौरों के लिए www.tenderwizard.in/isro या www.isro.gov.in देखें। Interested tenderers may visit www.tenderwizard.in/isro or www.isro.gov.in for details.
Sd/- ग्रुप निदेशक / Group Director, सीएमजी, वीएसएससी / CMG,VSSC

भारतीय समुद्री विश्वविद्यालय
INDIAN MARITIME UNIVERSITY
(A Central University under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India)
Established by an Act of the Parliament in 2008
Advt. No. IMU-HQ/C/42/13/01/2025-10th Convo Dated: 13.09.2025
NOTIFICATION OF TENTH CONVOCATION
1. Please refer to the Notification dated 19.08.2025 hosted on the IMU website.
2. In this regard, it is informed that the Tenth Convocation **will be held on Friday, 26.09.2025 at 11:00 AM** at IMU-HQ, Chennai for the students who have successfully registered for receiving degrees **In-Person** until 10.09.2025. The students are to be seated in the HQ auditorium by **09:30 AM.**
3. The students who have registered to receive their degrees/ diplomas In-Person for the 10th Convocation until 10.09.2025 should be present at the registration counters on **Thursday, 25.09.2025 from 10:00 AM to 04:00 PM** at IMU-HQ, Chennai without fail. The students who fail to register on 25.09.2025, will not be permitted to attend the convocation ceremony on 26.09.2025.
4. It is further reiterated that candidates who have still not registered for the 10th Convocation have to mandatorily register in the student portal for receiving their Degree/Diploma in **In-Absentia** only. Without registration in the Convocation portal, Degree/Diploma certificate will not be dispatched.
5. Registration link for In-Absentia is as follows: https://exam.imu.edu.in/imu/student/student_login?cs=1
REGISTRAR

INBRIEF

Mauritius PM Ramgoolam offers prayers at Ram temple

Mauritius Prime Minister Navinchandra Ramgoolam on Friday offered prayers at the Ram Temple in Ayodhya and performed *aarti*. He was accompanied by wife Veena Ramgoolam, and a 30-member delegation. With this visit, Mr. Ramgoolam became the second head of state, after the Prime Minister of Bhutan, to offer prayers at the temple. The Mauritius Prime Minister spent about half an hour in the Ram temple complex and also reviewed the construction work. A short film on the construction of the Ram Mandir was presented to the visiting Prime Minister and his delegation by the Tata Group.

Withdrawal of monsoon likely to begin around Sept. 15: IMD

The southwest monsoon is likely to start withdrawing from northwest India around September 15, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Friday. The primary rain-bearing system usually makes its onset over Kerala by June 1 and covers the entire country by July 8. It starts retreating from northwest India around September 17 and withdraws completely by October 15. "Conditions are becoming favourable for the withdrawal of the Southwest Monsoon from some parts of west Rajasthan around September 15," said IMD. This year, the monsoon covered the entire country nine days before the usual date of July 8. PTI

SC Bench to hear if judicial officers can avail Bar quota

A five-judge Bench of the Supreme Court headed by Chief Justice of India BR Gavai on Friday decided to hear whether judicial officers with seven years' legal experience can avail Bar quota for District Judge appointment. In a short hearing, the Bench scheduled the hearing to begin from September 23. The reference to the Constitution Bench by a Division Bench of the court was based on the interpretation of Article 233(2) of the Constitution. The question was whether a judicial officer with seven years' past experience in the Bar could also be considered for appointment as District Judge under the constitutional provision.

Navy's latest base INS Aravali commissioned in Gurugram

The Indian Navy commissioned its latest Naval Base, INS Aravali, at Gurugram on Friday, marking a major boost to its information and communication infrastructure. Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi, Chief of the Naval Staff, presided over the ceremony, which included a 50-men Guard of Honour, the reading of the commissioning warrant by Captain Sachin Kumar Singh, and the unveiling of the commissioning plaque by Mrs. Shashi Tripathi, President NWWA. Admiral Tripathi said that the new base would serve as a hub of technology, linking platforms and partners across oceans. INS Aravali is expected to boost the Navy readiness and maritime security.

India's manuscripts reflect the journey of humanity, says Modi

PM says digitisation will curb intellectual piracy; he bats for creation of database and highlights collaboration with Thailand, Vietnam, Mongolia

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Digitising legacy: PM Narendra Modi visits an exhibition during the international conference on manuscripts in New Delhi on Friday. PTI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday batted for digitisation of India's ancient manuscripts and creation of a database to share the knowledge in them.

Mr. Modi, who was addressing an International Conference on "Reclaiming India's Knowledge Legacy through Manuscript Heritage" as part of the launch of the Gyan Bharatam Mission, said digitisation would help in curbing "intellectual piracy", as the information sourced from the country's traditional knowledge system had been copied and patented many a time by others.

He said the exercise would be an extension of the country's resolve to forge ahead with the concept of swadeshi (made in India) and *atmanirbhar* (self-reliant) Bharat.

The Prime Minister said India had the world's largest collection of about one crore manuscripts, of which over 10 lakh had been digitised so far. He commended private organisations for working with the government to achieve this goal.

'Presenting heritage'

India is now proudly presenting before the world its heritage of ancient knowledge preserved in its manuscripts for centuries, he said, adding that India was also working with other countries such as Thailand, Vietnam, and Mongolia, with whom it has enjoyed cultural ties and which are home to such manuscripts. "Throughout history, crores of manuscripts were destroyed, but the ones that remain show how devoted our ancestors were to knowledge, science, and learning," Mr. Modi said. "India's manuscripts contain footprints of the development journey of the entire humanity."

He launched the "Gyan Bharatam" portal, a dedicated digital repository platform to digitalise and preserve ancient Indian manuscripts, and enhance sharing traditional knowledge embedded in them.

Denying upward mobility to candidates with disabilities defeats purpose of quota: SC

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court in a judgment on Friday asked the Centre to clarify whether talented candidates with disabilities whose performance allows them to qualify for the unreserved category are pushed up to make room for more people with disabilities to avail reservation benefits.

The top court asked the Union government to detail the steps taken so far to ensure the "upward movement" of such candidates.

"We consider it appropriate to require the Union of India to explain whether appropriate measures have been taken to provide the upward movement of meritorious candidates applying against the post/s reserved for persons with disabilities, in case such candidates secure more than the cut-off for the unreserved category. The same principle must also be applied to promotions," a Bench of Justice Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta said, directing the Union government to respond by October 14.

The judgment, authored by Justice Mehta, said that candidates with disabilities continue to be restricted to seats or jobs allotted for the disabled category, instead of allowing them upward mobility.

"The direct consequence of not providing upward movement to meritorious candidates applying under the category of persons with disabilities would be that even when a candidate with disability scores higher than the cut-off for the unreserved category, such a candidate would invariably occupy the reserved seat, thereby denying the opportunity to a lower scoring candidate with disability to make a claim on the seat/post," Justice Mehta reasoned.

Such stagnation of a candidate with disabilities defeats the very purpose of reservation under Section 34 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act and "constituted a glaring example of hostile discrimination against persons with disabilities", the court said. Justice Mehta pointed out that meritorious candidates who belong to backward classes are automatically moved up to the unreserved category, leaving reserved seats vacant for the less advantaged among them. However, the same measures are not taken in the case of persons with disabilities, who have been deprived by providence as against persons who face societal discrimination, he said.

The court said the government ought to see the larger objective of reservation, which is to open a window for people with disabilities to join the mainstream and equally share opportunities.

"Rather than viewing disability as a deficit requiring correction, the law must recognise it as a lens that reveals the true nature of legal, social, and institutional frameworks, illuminating whether they embrace human diversity or create barriers that exclude certain members of society, i.e., those who have been discriminated against by providence or who have suffered the disability factor in thier lifetime," Justice Mehta noted.

SC denies relief to Kangana Ranaut in defamation case

Aaratrika Bhaumik
NEW DELHI

Kangana Ranaut

The Supreme Court on Friday declined to entertain actor and BJP MP Kangana Ranaut's petition seeking to quash a defamation complaint filed against her over a retweet linked to the 2020-21 farmers' protest against the Centre's now-repealed farm laws.

A Bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta expressed its disinclination to hear the plea and permitted Ms. Ranaut's counsel to withdraw it, after suggesting that she could pursue alternative remedies before the trial court.

The BJP leader had moved the top court after the Punjab and Haryana High Court dismissed her plea, holding that she had failed to establish that her allegedly defamatory post was made in good faith.

At the outset of the hearing, Justice Mehta voiced reservations about the actor's comments. "What about your comments? It was not a simple retweet. You have added your own comments. You have added spice," he remarked.

Her counsel submitted that a clarification had already been issued regarding the post. To this, Justice Mehta responded that the clarification could be placed before the trial court.

Railways issue alert after cable cuts trigger signal failures, safety concerns

S. Vijay Kumar
CHENNAI

The ongoing infrastructure development work by the Indian Railways is causing frequent signal failures owing to cable cuts, posing a serious threat to the safety of train operations.

Amidst the increasing number of cable cuts being reported across the railway network, the Ministry of Railways has sent out an alert to general managers of all Zonal Railways to take due precautionary measures during the ongoing works.

The Railways is undertaking large-scale development works on mission mode, especially implementation of safety enhancement projects, automatic block signalling, introduction of double line, construction of boundary wall or fence to facilitate operation of high-speed trains, and installation of Kavach - India's indigenously developed automatic train protection system.

'Serious threat'

During the execution of these works, cable cuts/damage were being reported frequently leading to signal failures and disruption in train operations. "Such repeated signal failures due to cable cut/damage pose a serious threat to the safety and reliability of train services, and could lead to catastrophic consequences if adequate precautions are not taken," the alert said.

The Railways said repeated instructions were issued from time to time for protection of existing signal and telecommunication cables along the track while undertaking development works. "However, cases of cable cut/damage continue to be reported frequently." Insisting on proper coordination among departments involved in the ongoing projects, the Railways reiterated the Standard Operating Procedure recommended to ensure safety of signalling assets.

Asked for his comments on the issue of cable cuts triggering signal failures, a senior Railway officer said heavy penalty was being levied on contractors responsible for such damage. "The fine amount can go up to ₹1 lakh for each cut-...cable cut/damage will not happen if the work is executed strictly as per the drawing and under close monitoring of supervisory officials," he said.

SpiceJet plane wheel falls off during take-off

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

One of the wheels of a SpiceJet aircraft fell off at the time of take-off from the Kandla airport in Gujarat on Friday, resulting in full emergency being declared at the Mumbai airport in preparation for its landing.

A video captured the moment when the wheel of SpiceJet's Bombardier Q400 aircraft fell off just as the plane took off from the airport. SpiceJet said in a statement that the landing at Mumbai was normal, and all onboard were safe.

The airport said normal operations resumed shortly afterwards. The missing wheel was later found at the Kandla airport.

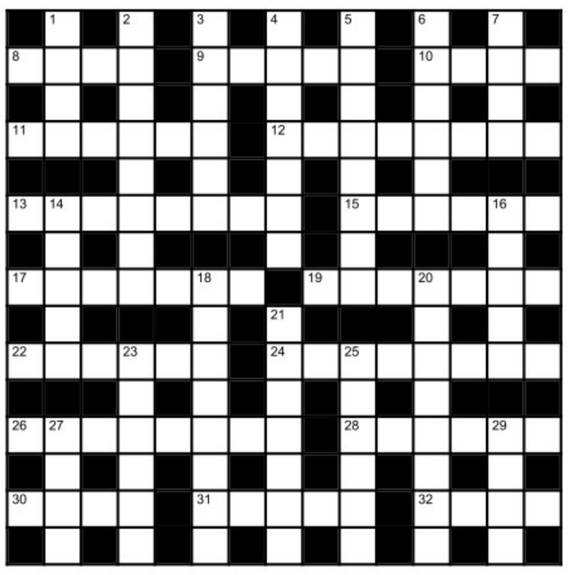
The Bombardier Q400 has a set of wheels under the nose and two wheels on each side of the engines on the wings.

TH CROSSWORD + 14588

(set by Incognito)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

8 Combat dead in part of hospital (4)
9 In the beginning, organise distillates using our smell (5)
10 Eve's mate evicting Basil from Islamabad in a tizzy (4)
11 Pokes around, covering Joule's city (6)
12 A cold churchman? That's right! (8)
13 10 cover renovated hotel in long winded TV show to raise money (8)
15 Teresa travels for festival (6)
17 Energy in concentrated beams of light spells out letters (7)
19 Support European husband or wife (7)
22 A couple of extras see you (3-3)
24 Admits on board, "Planes crashed after long dash" (8)
26 Underground take-away (8)
28 Went ahead, carrying a military policeman, and walked with disability (6)
30 Girl with energy produces strong wind (4)
31 Keys in on keyboard, "Sorts" (5)
32 Teen rejects eligibility exam in India (4)

Down

1 Between beginning of Jan., and end of Dec., a king gives a card (4)
2 Padre sat awkwardly, connecting devices (8)
3 Mary's husband and Juliet dashed hopes (6)
4 Drug produced by boss and murderer has energy (7)
5 Goes for revenue (8)
6 Crazy gunners start shooting in Chennai of yore (6)
7 Require pale model (4)
14 European men return Yankee's foe (5)
16 Stand in support of painter? (5)
18 Once again performs at Screen relaunch (8)
20 Nurse hugged by matron may give a trinket (8)
21 Communist record for bureaucratic rigmarole (3,4)
23 Nourishing food found in halibut territory (6)
25 It may be French or North European (6)
27 State: "University rejected headwear" (4)
29 First lady gets new flat (4)

SUDOKU

1	4				3			
7	6	8						
						4	2	
6			1				9	
5	1		3		9		4	8
	9				4			5
	7	9						
						9	6	7
			7				1	3

No.SS6640 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Solution to previous puzzle

	T	A		L		A		U		U		E		
B	E	N	D			E	N	G	A	G	E	M	E	N	T
	L		M		N		E		A		P		O	
R	E	S	I	G	N			S	U	N	D	I	A	L	S
	S		T		O					D		R			
I	C	E	T	O	N	G	S			A	V	E	N	U	E
	O		E				P		N				N		
S	P	E	D		T	O	O	L	S		H	Y	D	E	
	I				R		O			O		E			
I	C	E	T	E	A			N	I	B	B	L	E	R	S
			R		D				E		D		S		
I	M	P	U	D	E	N	T		G	R	A	N	T	S	
	E		D		I		H		G		L		A		
G	O	R	G	O	N	Z	O	L	A		L	O	N	E	
	W		E		S		R		R		S		D		

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

7	1	9	8	3	4	6	5	2
8	4	2	9	5	6	1	3	7
5	3	6	7	1	2	4	8	9
3	9	8	4	7	5	2	1	6
1	6	7	2	8	9	5	4	3
4	2	5	1	6	3	9	7	8
6	7	1	5	2	8	3	9	4
9	5	3	6	4	7	8	2	1
2	8	4	3	9	1	7	6	5

FAITH

Dual nature of Kaikeyi

In the epic Kamba Ramayanam, poet Kambar distinguishes between bright and dark characters. Brightness represents knowledge, righteousness, and noble qualities, while darkness symbolises ignorance and the failure to follow dharma. Sri Rama, Lakshmana, and Vibhishana are bright figures, while Surpanakha, Tataka, and Ravana embody darkness. Kaikeyi stands apart, reflecting both light and shadow.

Lanka Sri. Jeyaraj said in a discourse that Kaikeyi initially revealed her bright side. She was deeply affectionate towards Rama, son of Kausalya, raising him without discrimination. When King Dasaratha announced Rama's coronation, Kaikeyi was delighted. This reveals the luminous side of her character. But Kaikeyi's mind, like many others, became vulnerable to the evil influence of Manthara. Persuaded by her maid, Kaikeyi demanded that her son Bharata be crowned king and Rama be sent to the forest. This turn exposed her darker side, born out of misguided influence. Yet even in this, she could not bring herself to reject Rama forever. She asked only that he spend 14 years in exile, showing hesitation and inner conflict.

Kambar also highlights a symbolic moment. When Rama and Sita returned from Mithila after their marriage, Rama instructed Sita to bow first to Kaikeyi before Kausalya, despite custom favouring the eldest. This subtle act was Rama's way of preparing Sita for future trials that would arise through Kaikeyi.

Thus, Kaikeyi is not portrayed as totally evil. Kambar presents her as a bright soul temporarily overshadowed by ignorance.

INBRIEF

Maharashtra allots 100 acres to chip firm RRP Electronics

The Maharashtra government has allotted 100 acres to semiconductor firm RRP Electronics. A Letter of Comfort has been issued to the firm for relocating a semiconductor fab from a semiconductor company in Sherman, Texas. The company is planning to set up a fab facility with a capacity of 1.25 lakh wafers per month. "This allotment of land firmly positions Maharashtra at the heart of India's Semiconductor Mission roadmap," said CM Devendra Fadnavis.

FSIB picks Ravi Ranjan for SBI Managing Director position

The Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB), the headhunter for directors of state-owned banks and financial institutions, has recommended Ravi Ranjan for the position of managing director of State Bank of India (SBI). Mr. Ranjan, currently Deputy MD, would replace MD Vinay M. Tonse, who would complete his term on November 30, 2025. (FSIB) interviewed nine candidates on September 11, 2025, for the position of MD in SBI, the Bureau said. PTI

Centre unveils licensing policy for opium poppy cultivation

The government on Friday announced the annual licensing policy for the 2025-26 crop year for opium poppy cultivation in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. Nearly 1.21 lakh farmers are eligible to receive licenses – a 23.5% rise in farmer licenses. This includes 15,000 additional farmers, above the previous crop year in these states. A release said, the Centre would ensure adequate supply of alkaloids to meet medical and palliative care needs. PTI

Vessel ban at Adani port may hit crude supplies from Russia

The ban on accepting sanctioned ships by Adani is a direct response to international pressure: Global real-time data and analytics provider Kpler

Rishi Ranjan Kala

No entry: The ports where the vessels will not be docked includes Mundra, which handles 10% of India's total crude oil imports. PTI

The ban on sanctioned shipping vessels by Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ), India's largest private port operator, may affect crude oil cargoes from Russia, which accounts for over one-third of country's imports of this geopolitically sensitive commodity.

APSEZ's decision to not allow shipping vessels sanctioned by the U.S. Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), European Union (EU) and the U.K. to dock at its ports also includes Mundra, which handles close to 10% of India's total crude oil imports. For perspective, APSEZ operates 15 domestic ports and terminals, accounting for 27.8% market share, with six ports scattered on the west coast, five on south and four ports on the east coast.

Global real-time data and analytics provider Kpler said the move, which impacts key crude oil terminals like Mundra, is a direct response to "international pressure".

It will likely present a significant challenge to the import of Russian crude oil that accounts for more than 50% of Mundra's crude arrivals, the agency anticipated. The Mundra port has two single point mooring capacity to evacuate imported crude oil and is capable of handling Very Large Crude Carriers and Ultra Large Crude Carriers. It supplies crude oil to refineries in North India.

Kpler said that the Adani Group's decision "is a major development in the global oil market and is expected to have a significant impact on Russian crude oil flows to India."

Russian cargoes

It is particularly significant due to Adani Group's scale, emphasises Sumit Ritolia, Kpler's Lead Research Analyst for Refining & Modeling, adding that Mundra received nearly 4,00,000 barrels per day (b/d) crude oil in recent years.

"Russian crude oil accounts for more than 50% of crude oil arrivals at Mundra during the same period. This makes Mundra a critical gateway for Russian barrels into India, as it serves major refiners like HPCL-Mittal Energy (HMEL) and state-owned Indian Oil, and accounts for close to 10% of India's total crude oil imports," he told *businessline*.

This comes as Indian refiners are grappling with effects of sanctions. Indian crude oil imports registered a 10-month low in August (2025) amid seasonal maintenance peaks, particularly at Nayara Energy's Vadinar Refinery, which was sanctioned by the EU in late July. Kpler data shows that Nayara's August (2025) supply was limited to arrivals from Russia for the first time on record, Ritolia explained.

Adani's decision adds a new layer of complexity to India's crude sourcing, he warned, pointing out that this creates potential compliance pressures for Russian flows into HMEL and other refineries.

(The writer is with The Hindu businessline)

SEBI asks govt. to relax minimum public shareholding norms for large IPOs

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

The Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has recommended to the Centre to relax minimum public shareholding (MPS) norms for large companies coming up with big initial public offerings (IPOs).

These scale-based thresholds for large IPOs are aimed at facilitating good quality stocks to get listed in the primary market so that retail investors benefit from investing in them.

As per existing regulations, issuers with a post-issue market capital (market cap) above ₹1,00,000 crore are required to offer to public ₹5,000 crore and at least 5% of the post issue market cap.

"For large issuers, diluting substantial stake through an IPO can pose challenges, as the market may not be able to absorb such a large supply of shares, which, in turn, may discourage such issuers from pursuing listing in India," SEBI chairman Tuhin Kanta Pandey said, addressing a post board meet press conference.

"Regular dilution post listing impacts issuers until MPS requirements are complied with. This may lead to price overhang due to impending equity dilution, adversely affecting the interest of existing public shareholders," he said.

"Further, under the proposed MPO requirements,

Tuhin Kanta Pandey

issuers are recommended to be permitted to list with a lower initial public float, hence, an extended period is required to allow them to achieve MPS of 25% in a gradual manner. Extended period for large issues also do not pose risk of low liquidity in large size IPO," he added. For large size companies, the revised Minimum Public Offer will still be large enough to provide sufficient stock to the market, including retail investors, and facilitate liquidity, the chairman said.

Monitoring mechanism

Post listing, the stock exchanges will continue to monitor these issuers through their surveillance mechanism and related measures to ensure orderly functioning of trading in shares of such issuers.

For companies with market cap of ₹50,000 crore to ₹100,000 crore, SEBI has recommend minimum public offer of ₹1,000 crore and at least 8% of the post issue market cap.

An MPC of 25% is to be achieved within five years from date of listing.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	FRIDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	81,905	0.44
US Dollar	88.26	0.10
Gold	1,13,800	0.61
Brent oil	67.55	1.82

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2392.00	-6.80
Adani Ports	1393.10	0.00
Apollo Hosp	7874.50	-5.00
Asian Paints	2546.30	-9.60
Axis Bank	1105.30	17.90
Bajaj Auto	8999.50	-114.00
Bajaj Finserv	2081.50	43.70
Bajaj Finance	1003.25	33.00
Bharat Elec	399.30	14.15
Bharti Airtel	1902.60	-10.40
Cipla	1574.60	13.80
Coal India	394.35	1.00
Dr Reddys Lab	1316.70	13.60
Eicher Motors	6875.00	117.00
Eternal Ltd.	321.40	-6.70
Grasim Ind	2802.00	3.00
HCL Tech	1467.20	-0.50
HDFC Bank	967.30	-0.50
HDFC Life	779.65	5.40
Hero MotoCorp	5301.50	-0.50
Hindalco	758.05	15.40
Hind Unilever	2580.50	-41.50
ICICI Bank	1417.70	16.10
IndusInd Bank	740.50	-8.10
Infosys	1525.60	15.90
ITC	413.75	-1.30
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	311.20	0.50
JSW Steel	1099.00	0.00
Kotak Bank	1972.30	0.00
L&T	3579.80	40.10
M&M	3589.90	-5.80
Maruti Suzuki	15325.00	230.00
NestleIndia	1217.60	-3.20
NTPC	331.70	0.65
ONGC	233.25	-0.51
PowerGrid Corp	287.65	0.85
Reliance Ind	1395.00	11.70
SBI Life	1830.20	16.00
State Bank	823.55	-0.10
Shriram Finance Ltd.	632.85	12.80
Sun Pharma	1616.60	6.90
TataConsumerProduct	1103.90	-1.40
Tata Motors	715.25	9.40
Tata Steel	169.78	0.37
TCS	3133.40	9.20
Tech Mahindra	1525.50	4.30
Titan	3571.90	-12.30
Trent Ltd.	5130.00	-41.00
UltraTech Cement	12370.00	-22.00
Wipro	251.94	-1.97

Centre, states will earn ₹40,000 cr. if polluting vehicles scrapped: Gadkari

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari on Friday said the Centre and states could earn up to ₹40,000 crore in GST if all 97 lakh unfit and polluting vehicles are scrapped. PTI

Will meet Dec. FTA deadline, assures EU trade commissioner

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Maroš Šefčovič

European Union's Trade Commissioner on Friday expressed confidence that the free trade agreement between India and the EU, which is currently being negotiated, would meet its December-end deadline.

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal, too, expressed shared commitment towards an "early conclusion" to the negotiations. The negotiating team from the EU has been in India since Monday for a week-long round of negotiations.

Maroš Šefčovič, Commissioner for Trade and Economic Security, Interinstitutional Relations and Transparency for European Union arrived on Friday to continue negotiations with Mr. Goyal.

"I am very happy to be able to address you in the middle of very intensive talks and negotiations of what I believe would be a ground breaking FTA between the EU and India," he said at an event organised by the Automotive Component Manufacturers Association on Friday.

Apollo Hospitals to acquire IFC's stake in AHLL

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Ltd. (AHEL) on Friday announced its intent to acquire 31% stake held by the International Finance Corporation (IFC) in Apollo Health and Lifestyle Limited (AHLL), a subsidiary of AHEL, for a consideration of ₹1,254 crore.

Following the transaction, AHLL will become a 100% subsidiary of AHEL with 99.42% held by AHEL and the balance in the ESOP pool. The acquisition of the shares is expected to be completed by the end of November 2025.

Apollo Hospitals also announced plans to set up a 100-bed Comprehensive Oncology Centre at Gurugram.

Kerala capital to host two-day blue economy conclave

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Saji Cherian

Representatives from 29 European countries are expected to attend a two-day blue economy conclave in the State capital on September 18 and 19, Minister for Fisheries Saji Cherian has said.

The conclave 'Blue Tides-Two Shores One Vision' is being organised by the State's Fisheries department in collaboration with the Union government and the European Union (EU).

Representatives from 17 European countries have confirmed participation in the event, which will be attended by EU Ambassador to India and Bhutan, Hervé Delphin, Mr. Cherian said on Friday.

The event, to be held at The Leela Kovalam, will see experts and stakeholders from India and Europe share their thoughts on a range of blue economy themes and forge partnerships.

Sustainable model

The event will come out with a road map for developing Kerala as a sustainable and resilient blue economy model, leveraging the EU's expertise and the strategic advantages of the State's blue economy.

The countries that have confirmed participation in the event are Finland, France, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Denmark, Bulgaria, Austria, Malta, Spain, Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium, Romania and Germany.

OFFICE OF THE ADDL. CHIEF ENGINEER, PWD, ZONE BIKANER
No:- 1260 Dt.:-28-08-2025
NIB CODE:- PWD2526A2981
NIB NO. 09/2025-26
Bid for **02** No. work Sanctioned Under Budget Announcement Year 2024-25 Road, work are invited from interested bidders upto 06.00 PM dt. 06.10.2025 (Monday) Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the state and DIPR department website. The approximate values of the procurement is **Rs. 4266.93 Lakhs.**
UBN Code No.
PWD2526WLOB11203
PWD2526WLOB11205
DIPR/C/12867/2025
Addl. Chief Engineer, PWD, Zone Bikaner

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सा.नि.वि., संभाग द्वितीय उदयपुर मु. बाँसवाड़ा
क्रमांक: डी-370 दिनांक : 03.09.2025
निविदा संशोधन-06 निविदा सूचना संख्या 04/2025-26
NIB Code: PWD2526A0789
इस कार्यालय के क्रमांक 121 दिनांक 23.05.2025, एवं डी-191 दिनांक 16.06.2025, डी-222 दिनांक 26.06.2025, डी-253 दिनांक 11.07.2025 द्वारा जारी निविदा सूचना संख्या- 04/2025-26 के क्रम संख्या 15 पर अंकित कार्य की तिथियों में निम्नानुसार संशोधन किया जाता है।

विवरण	पूर्व में दिनांक	संशोधित दिनांक
ऑनलाइन निविदा आवेदन / डाउनलोड करने की दिनांक	बुधवार, 28 मई 2025 प्रातः 9:30 से बुधवार, 03 सितम्बर सायं 6.00 बजे	बुधवार, 03 सितम्बर 2025 प्रातः 9:30 से रविवार 14 सितम्बर सायं 6.00 बजे
ऑनलाइन निविदा जमा कराने की दिनांक	बुधवार, 28 मई 2025 प्रातः 9:30 से बुधवार, 03 सितम्बर सायं 6.00 बजे	बुधवार, 03 सितम्बर 2025 प्रातः 9:30 से रविवार 14 सितम्बर सायं 6.00 बजे
प्रि-बिड मिटींग दिनांक, समय व स्थान	गुरूवार, 28 अगस्त 2025, प्रातः 11.00 बजे	बुधवार, 10 सितम्बर 2025, प्रातः 11.00 बजे अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सा.नि.वि. संभाग द्वितीय उदयपुर मु. बाँसवाड़ा में।
ऑनलाइन निविदा खोलने की दिनांक	गुरूवार, 04 सितम्बर 2025 को प्रातः 11:00 बजे।	सोमवार, 15 सितम्बर 2025, प्रातः 11:00 बजे।

UBN:- PWD2526WLSOB02487
निविदा की अन्य शर्तें यथावत रहेंगी।
DIPR/C/13118/2025
(बी.एल. भेणिया), अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सा.नि.वि. संभाग द्वितीय उदयपुर मुख्यालय बाँसवाड़ा

MAHATRANSCO
Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
CPD/101-2025-26
Tenders are invited through e-Tendering in SRM Two Bid system from the registered vendors for Supply of following:

Tender No. & Description of Material	Estimated Amount (in Rs. in Lakhs) / Tender Fee (in Rs.)	Due Date & Time (Hrs.) Submission & Opening of Tender
SP/T-48/0925_TKC1 (RFx 7000037579) (1st Call) for Work of Replacement of existing 0.4 ACSR conductor along with hardwares by High Performance Conductor (HPC) along with hardwares of 1) 220kV Bhosari-I-Bhosari-II, 2)220kV Bhosari-II - Telco, 3)220kV Bhosari-I - Century Enka, 4)220kV Century Enka-Khadki, 5)220kV Khadki-VSNL, 6)220kV VSNL-Lonikand-II & 7)220kV Bhosari-I - Lonikand - II under EHV PC O&M Zone, Pune. (1st call).	8025.75 Lakhs (Incl. GST) 6801.48 Lakhs (Excl. GST) / 25,000.00 + GST	13.10.2025 18:00 / 13.10.2025 18:05

Contact Person: Office of the Executive Engineer (Gr-TKC-1)
Tel. No.: 022-69852717
Email : 1) C.E. (CPA) 2) E.E. (Group-TKC-1), CPA, C.O. MSETCL, 1st Floor, Prakashgad Building, Bandra (E), Mumbai
Email id: cecpa@mahatransco.in, secpa@gmail.com , eepc@mahatransco.in, eetkc1cpa@mahatransco.in
For further details visit our website
http://www.srmetender.mahatransco.in
Any further amendments will be published on the MSETCL website **www.mahatransco.in**. So bidders are requested to check the website.
Sd/-
Executive Engineer (P&C)

आर्मर्ड व्हीकल्स निगम लिमिटेड
भारत सरकार का उद्यम
रक्षा मंत्रालय
ARMOURED VEHICLES NIGAM LIMITED
A GOVT. OF INDIA ENTERPRISE
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
सर्वाः प्रदिशो जयेम
CIN-U35990TN2021GOI145504

ADVT. NO. AVNLCO/HR/2025/08

ENGAGEMENT OF PROFESSIONALS ON FIXED TERM CONTRACT BASIS

Armoured Vehicles Nigam Limited (AVANI) (AVNL) is a new Defence PSU with its headquarters at Avadi (Chennai). AVNL is engaged in the manufacturing of battle tanks (T-72, T-90, MBT Arjun), Infantry Combat Vehicles, Support vehicles (MPV, AERV etc.) and Defence mobility solutions (Stallion, LPTA etc.) for the armed forces and homeland security agencies. It is the current market leader in this segment. It is a new Government Company with Great Future. It offers great work environment and challenging opportunities for the professionals to prove their mettle.

Offline applications are invited from eligible candidates for contractual engagement for the following post:

S. No.	NAME OF THE POST	NO OF VACANCY	TOTAL CONSOLIDATED REMUNERATION (PER MONTH) ALL INCLUSIVE
1.	Addl. General Manager (Consultant Finance & Accounts)	01 [01-UR]	Rs. 1,00,000 + IDA
2.	Junior Manager (Co-ordinator)	01 [01-UR]	Rs. 30,000 + IDA
3.	Manager - Web Developer (PHP)	01 [01-UR]	Rs. 60,000 + IDA
4.	Assistant Manager (Document Writer)	01 [01-UR]	Rs. 40,000 + IDA
5.	Junior Manager (Hardware & Networking)	02 [02-UR]	Rs. 30,000 + IDA
6.	Assistant Manager (e-Office)	01 [01-UR]	Rs. 40,000/- + IDA
7.	Junior Manager (e-Office)	03 [03-UR]	Rs. 30,000/- + IDA
8.	Senior Manager (Server Administrator)	01 [01-UR]	Rs. 70,000/- + IDA
9.	Senior Manager (Cyber Security)	01 [01-UR]	Rs. 70,000/- + IDA
10.	Assistant Manager (Email Administrator)	01 [01-UR]	Rs. 40,000/- + IDA
11.	Manager (AI & New Technology)	01 [01-UR]	Rs. 60,000/- + IDA

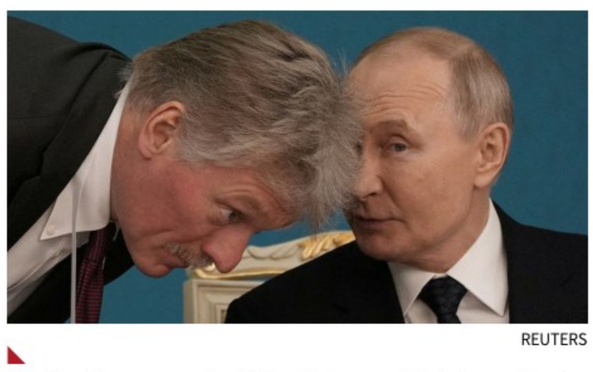
The last date of receipt of application will be 21 Days from the date of publication of this advertisement. For further information please visit our **AVNL website www.avnl.co.in** or **DDP website ddpdoo.gov.in** for detailed job specification, qualification, experience, skills, remuneration, procedure, application format, terms and conditions for applying for the said posts.

Any corrigendum / amendment in this advertisement will be published / uploaded on **AVNL or DDP website ONLY**. Candidates are requested to visit the website regularly for latest updates / Corrigendum.

HR Division, AVNL CO
Chennai
Email: **info@avnl.co.in**
Dated: 13-09-2025
Tele: 044 – 26844808/26844810

MOSCOW

Peace negotiations between Russia and Ukraine paused, says Kremlin

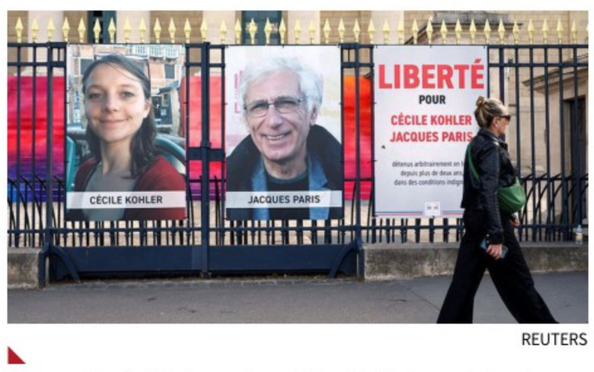


REUTERS

The Kremlin announced on Friday that peace talks between Russia and Ukraine have been paused, blaming European countries for obstructing the process while maintaining that Moscow remains open to talks. Negotiators of both countries have held three rounds of direct talks this year in Istanbul, most recently on July 23. REUTERS

PARIS

France seeks immediate release of three citizens held in Iran



REUTERS

France reiterated its demands on Friday for the immediate release of three French citizens held in Iran, declining to comment on a possible prisoner swap mentioned by the Iranian Foreign Minister. Iran has been holding Cecile Kohler and her partner since 2022 in conditions France has said are akin to torture. REUTERS

DENPASAR

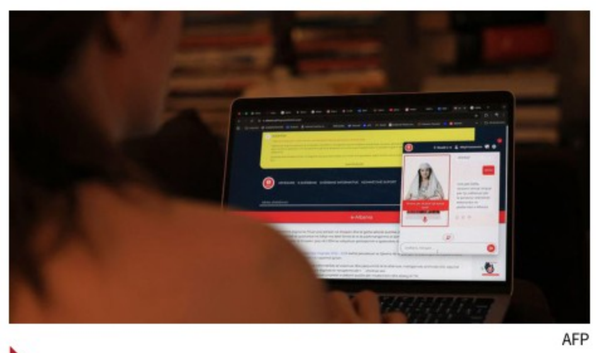
Toll from Indonesia flooding rises to 23; five people missing

AFP

The death toll from the flooding that struck two Indonesian islands, including tourist hotspot Bali, rose to 23 on Friday, officials said, with five other people still missing. Torrential rain late Tuesday triggered floods and landslides across Bali, the National Disaster Mitigation Agency (BNPB) said. AFP

TIRANA

Albania PM appoints AI-generated 'minister' to tackle corruption



AFP

Albania's Prime Minister Edi Rama on Friday tapped an Artificial Intelligence-generated 'minister' for his cabinet to take on corruption. "The new State Minister is called Diella," Rama said in a Facebook post. He said the bot would help ensure that "public tenders will be 100% free of corruption". AP

Russia, Belarus start military drills as West watches warily

NATO's eastern members are on high alert over the exercises; Poland, which holds joint drills with NATO allies, said it would have 40,000 troops at the border; Moscow has downplayed the concerns, saying the drills are not aimed against anyone

Agence France-Presse
MOSCOW

The Marshal Ustinov missile cruiser of the Russian navy's Northern Fleet during joint drills held by Russia and Belarus on Friday. AP

Russia and its key ally Belarus began major joint military drills early on Friday, putting NATO on edge days after Poland accused Moscow of escalating tensions by firing attack drones through its airspace.

The 'Zapad' exercises come as Russian forces grind across the sprawling front line in Ukraine and escalate aerial attacks on Ukrainian cities.

The Russian Defence Ministry posted a video showing heavy military equipment – including armoured vehicles, helicopters and navy ships – taking part in the drills. It said aerial reconnaissance and missile strikes on ground targets would be among the manoeuvres rehearsed.

Russia also said it had deployed ships from its Northern Fleet in the Barents Sea and the northern regions of the Arctic Ocean for the exercises.

NATO's eastern flank members that border Russia and Belarus are on high alert over the drills, some of which will be held in Belarus's Grodno region bordering Poland and Lithuania, Minsk said.

Both EU countries have ramped up security. Poland closed its border with Belarus overnight until further notice.

Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk said Warsaw was closer to "open conflict" than at any point since the Second World War after Poland and its NATO allies scrambled jets to down Russian drones violating its airspace early Wednesday.

Poland, which holds its own joint drills with NATO allies coinciding with Zapad, said it would have around 40,000 troops at the border when Russia and Belarus hold their exercises.

Moscow has downplayed the concerns. "These are planned exercises, they are not aimed against anyone," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters on Thursday, rejecting Poland's claim that the drills were an "aggressive" show of force. Usually held every four years, the 2025 iteration of Zapad is the first during the conflict in Ukraine, and is to run until September 16.

France sends jets to Poland as U.K. ramps up sanctions

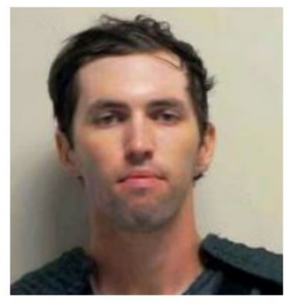
Associated Press
WARSAW

France said on Friday it's deploying fighter jets to Poland and the U.K. announced fresh sanctions targeting Russia's oil revenues and war machine as Europe's first, measured steps to Russia's drone incursion into Poland aimed to send a signal to Moscow that any further aggression won't go unchecked.

French President Emmanuel Macron said he would deploy three advanced Rafale fighter jets to help protect Poland's airspace and NATO's eastern flank. He said the deployment was discussed with both NATO Secretary-General Mark Rutte and British Prime Minister Keir Starmer.

Suspect arrested in Charlie Kirk killing

Agence France-Presse
OREM



Tyler Robinson

U.S. authorities said on Friday they had captured the man accused of killing prominent right-wing activist Charlie Kirk after a family member helped to turn him in after a frantic manhunt.

"We got him," Utah Governor Spencer Cox told a press conference.

Mr. Cox identified the suspect as Tyler Robinson, and said the arrest was made after one of Robinson's relatives contacted a friend, who then contacted the police. The arrest raised a bitterly divided country's hopes of finding answers to the shocking political murder on Wednesday.

The 31-year-old was killed after being hit by a single bullet in his neck while addressing a large crowd at Utah Valley University.

Authorities quickly found the alleged murder weapon, a high-powered hunting rifle, and released photos of a young man dressed in a baseball cap and casual clothing. However, after detaining, then releasing, two people who turned out to be unconnected to the case, the police and FBI appeared to struggle. Late on Thursday, officials in Orem released more details about the suspect's clothing and initial movements after the shooting, pleading with the public to help identify him.

FBI Director Kash Patel said the arrest was made at 10:00 p.m. Thursday.

Mr. Cox credited assistance from the alleged killer's own family and said his State would pursue the death penalty against the suspect.

Mr. Trump said he would back the move.

India votes in favour of UNGA resolution on Palestine state

Press Trust of India
UNITED NATIONS

India on Friday voted in favour of a resolution in the UN General Assembly that endorses the 'New York Declaration' on peaceful settlement of the Palestine issue and implementation of the two-state solution.

The resolution, introduced by France, was adopted with an overwhelming 142 nations voting in favour, 10 against and 12 abstentions. Those voting against included Argentina, Hungary, Israel and the U.S.

India was among the 142 nations that voted in favour of the resolution titled 'Endorsement of the New York Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution'.

The declaration was circulated at a high-level international conference held in July at the UN headquarters and co-chaired by France and Saudi Arabia.

In the declaration, the leaders "agreed to take collective action to end the war in Gaza, to achieve a peaceful and lasting settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict based on the effective implementation of the two-state solution, and to build a better future for Palestinians, Israelis and all peoples of the region".

It called on the Israeli leadership to issue a clear public commitment to the two-state solution, including a sovereign, and viable Palestinian State.

2 persons injured in Palestinian stabbing attack near Jerusalem

Agence France-Presse
JERUSALEM

Two people were wounded in a stabbing attack at a hotel in Tzuba, an Israeli kibbutz less than 10 km west of Jerusalem, medics said, with police reporting that the Palestinian assailant had been arrested.

"EMT (emergency medical technician) and paramedics are treating two stabbing victims and evacuating them to hospital," according to a statement by Israel's Magen David Adom emergency service.

Israeli police said an individual "from the Shuafat area carried out a stabbing attack against guests at the hotel, injuring them".

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
Directorate of Veterinary & Animal Husbandry
Shanthi Nagar, Hyderabad

Directorate of Veterinary & Animal Husbandry, Government of Telangana invites Bids on e-Procurement Platform **http://www.eprocurement.gov.in** for procurement of Fodder Seed for 1 year period (2025-26) up to 31-03-2026 (Second Call). For any further clarification visit **http://tender.telangana.gov.in**. Contact no. 9989997598 / 9885458987.

Sd/- Director, Veterinary & Animal Husbandry Department,
DIPR R.O.No.8013-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2025-26 Dt. 12.09.2025 **Shanthinagar, Hyderabad**

EASTERN POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY OF A.P. LTD
Corporate Office, P&T Colony, Seethammadhara, Visakhapatnam-13.

e-Tender Notice

Appointment of System Integrator (SI) for implementation of Unified Revenue Management System along with related modules in APEPDCL & APCPDCL including the required Operations & Maintenance for a period of 5 Years. For further details & schedule, please visit at **www.apeprocurement.gov.in** & **www.apeasternpower.com** from **13.09.2025 @16:00 Hrs**.

Advt-84 **Sd/- Chief General Manager/ IT**

THE HUTTI GOLD MINES COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
(CIN No.U85110KA1947SGC001321)
Hutti-584115, Raichur Dist, Karnataka State, Tele: 08537-275022,
Website: www.huttigold.karnataka.gov.in

No.HGML/MD/OR/2025-26 12.09.2025

Notification for Deputation

HGML is a Govt. of Karnataka Undertaking, the only Company producing Gold from primary route in India. It is producing primary gold since 1947. Presently, it is operating 03 Gold Mining Leases at Hutti, Uti and Hira-Buddinni Gold Mines in Hutti Maski schist belt. Apart from this, it is owning Prospecting and Mining Leases in other parts of Karnataka. Ambitious growth plan of the company is under implementation.

HGML wishes to induct GM-level executives, as detailed below, with a view to strengthening its hierarchy at senior level, on Deputation Basis, from SPSU/CPSU/State/Central Govt. organizations having similar working domain as HGML.

Sl. No.	Designation	No. of posts	Grade	Pay scale (un-revised)	Remarks
1	General Manager(Mines)	1	E-9	Rs. 106400 - 143700	Pay protection may be opted.
2	General Manager(Engineering)	1			

NOTE: For details relating to procedure for application, time period, qualification, experience, terms & conditions, perks, allowances etc., please visit company's official website **www.huttigold.karnataka.gov.in**.

Sd/- Managing Director.

"LEADING GOLD PRODUCER IN INDIA"

China's new carrier crosses Taiwan Strait

Associated Press
BEIJING

China's newest aircraft carrier has sailed through the Taiwan Strait, the Navy said on Friday. The body of water separates China from Taiwan, the self-governing island that Beijing says must come under its control.

The sailing could serve as a warning to the U.S. and others against support for Taiwan, though China played down any such motive.

'Most reasonable route'

The *Fujian*, which is doing sea trials ahead of its commissioning, was heading to the South China Sea to conduct training and scientific experiments, the Navy said in a short post on social media.

The Navy said the carrier's activities were not targeting anyone else.

A social media account affiliated with state media quoted an expert saying the Taiwan Strait was the normal and most reasonable and efficient route for the carrier to reach the South China Sea. It was the first time the *Fujian* had passed through the strait, the post by the Yuyuantantian account said.

The sailing could serve as a warning to the United States and others against support for Taiwan

The U.S. Navy sends warships through the strait periodically, as do some of its allies, in a warning to Beijing against any attempt to use force to establish its claim to the island.

Japan's military said it had spotted the China's latest carrier for the first time on Thursday afternoon. The *Fujian* was sailing southwest about 200 km from the disputed Senkaku islands in Chinese.

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
 # 49, East Wing , 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bengaluru – 560 001.
Phone No. 080-22265383. email: cdoce2@kiadb.in, Website: www.kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/PMC/EPTND-EP-02/662/2025-26 **Date:12.09.2025**

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR PROVIDING PROJECT MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY SERVICES
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

KIADB is inviting tenders under Quality Based Consultancy System (QCBS) as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Consulting Firms under two cover system for the following works.

Name of the Works : 1) Project Management Consultancy Services for the work of Formation of Roads, including asphalting, Construction of RCC side drains, RCC cross drainage & HDPE dual water supply pipelines, etc., at Ganajur Block for Koluru Ganajuru Industrial Area, Haveri Taluk & District **(2nd Call). 2)** Project Management Consultancy Services for the work of Supplying, laying, testing and commissioning of dual water supply pipeline networks for supplying potable & recycled water and UGD Network with suitable pipelines, construction of chambers, etc. at Phase-3 of Dharwad Industrial node at Dharwad Taluk and District **(3rd Call). 3)** Project Management Consultancy Services for the work of Formation of Industrial Layout Including Formation of Roads Including Asphalting, Construction of RCC Side Drains, RCC Ducts & Culverts, RCC Retaining Wall, HDPE Dual Water Supply Pipeline, & RWH at Karajaga Village Sector-2 in Kanagala Industrial Area, 2nd Phase, Hukkeri Taluk, Belagavi District. **(2nd Call). 4)** Project Management Consultancy Services for the work of Formation of Industrial Layout Including Formation of Roads Including Asphalting, Construction of RCC Side Drains, RCC Cross Drainage Works, SWD HDPE Dual Water Supply Pipeline at Karajaga Village, Sector-3 in Kanagala Industrial Area, 2nd Phase Hukkeri Taluk, Belagavi District. **(2nd Call).**

The last date and time of receipt of tender is : **25.09.2025 upto 04:00 pm.**

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

DIPR/CP/JA/2793/2025-26 **Sd/- Chief Engineer - 2**

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
 # 49, East Wing , 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bengaluru – 560 001. Phone No. 080-22265383. Website: www.kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-16/661/2025-26 **Date:12.09.2025**

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

Tender is invited as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible (Class-III & above Civil) Contractors registered in KPWD who have got adequate financial resources & sufficient past experience for the following work as per the schedule given below:

Name of the work : Construction of Pump House, Twin Quarters, Building, Compound Wall, Drilling of Borewells, Laying of Pipeline in CA Site No-113/A of KIADB Navanagar Agrotech Park Industrial Area, Bagalkot. **(3rd CALL).**

The last date and time of receipt of tender is : **24.09.2025 upto 04:00 pm.**

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the E-Procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

DIPR/CP/JA/2792/2025-26 **Sd/- Chief Engineer - 2**

CARNAGE

Salt dazzles as England breaches the 300-run mark in T20Is

REUTERS

Phil Salt smashed a 60-ball unbeaten 141 (15x4, 8x6) as England scored the highest-ever T20I total among Test playing nations in the second T20I against South Africa on Friday. The previous best was India's 297 for six against Bangladesh. **The scores:** England 304/2 in 20 overs (Salt 141 n.o., Buttler 83, Brook 41 n.o.) vs SA. **Toss:** SA.

GIVING HIS ALL

I'm happy India got the 2-0 lead, says Nagal after defeating Huesler

AP

"I'm happy that we could get India 2-0 lead. I kind of know how he (Marc-Andrea Huesler) plays. I'm comfortable playing him unless he comes out with incredible shots. The plan was to, fight every point, make those games as long as possible. And it turned out to be in my favour," Sumit Nagal said after beating Marc-Andrea Huesler.

MIXED FORTUNES

Nihal held to a draw, remains in joint lead; Vaishali suffers first loss

FIDE

Indian GM Nihal Sarin drew with Matthias Bluebaum in the eighth round to remain in joint lead with six points in the FIDE Grand Swiss in Samarkand. Divya Deshmukh held the World champion D. Gukesh to a draw in a 103-move game. R. Vaishali lost to Bibisara Assaubayeva in the eighth round of the women's section.

GOOD WINS

Bulls triumph over Panthers; Thalaivas beat Warriors

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Bengaluru Bulls got the better of Jaipur Pink Panthers completing a convincing 28-23 win at the SMS Indoor Stadium in Jaipur on Friday. Deepak Sankar registered a High Five, while Alireza Mirzaian led the raiding department with eight points for the visitors. In the second match, Tamil Thalaivas beat Bengal Warriors 46-36.

Flexibility will be key to India's batting line-up: Kotak

Batting coach stresses Samson is good enough to bat at any number; says everyone knows their role and will be ready according to the situation

ASIA CUP

Vivek Krishnan
DUBAI

Power-packed: Abhishek's ultra-aggressive ways at the top have powered India. AFP

Beyond the opening pair of Shubman Gill and Abhishek Sharma, India's batting order will have to be malleable going into next year's T20 World Cup.

That was the essence of batting coach Sitanshu Kotak's message to his players ahead of the all-important Group A clash in the Asia Cup against Pakistan at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium on Sunday.

Revised role

A case in point is Sanju Samson's revised role in this line-up. While the wicketkeeper-batter had made his mark as opener over the past year for India, he is having to acquaint himself with the middle-order now that Shubman Gill is back in the fold as vice-captain at the top of the order.

"See, Sanju has not batted a lot at No. 5 or 6," Kotak said on Friday. "But that doesn't mean that he can't do it. So Sanju is a good enough player to bat at any number. So, according to the requirements of the team, captain and head coach, we will decide. And he is more than happy to bat at any number."

It is not merely Samson that India expects elasticity from.

Considering the innumerable twists and turns compressed into a T20 innings, the likes of Hardik Pandya, Shivam Dube and Axar Patel will also be used as floaters to negate bespoke plans of the opposition. To be clear, all of the world's top T20 teams expect their batters to exhibit similar traits.

"If you look at our batting line-up, everyone is capable of going in at any number and finishing the match. We have four to five aggressive players. More or less, everyone is prepared to bat at any number. So, it is not fixed. Everyone knows their role. So, they will be ready according to the situation," Kotak said.

Perfect blend of batters

Enabling this approach for India is the perfect blend of batters in the top eight. While Gill, Suryakumar Yadav, Hardik Pandya and Sanju Samson are right-handers, the styles of Abhishek Sharma, Tilak Varma, Shivam Dube and Axar Patel are embellished by characteristic left-handed flamboyance.

It means that Suryakumar's men can have a left-right combination at the crease all the way through. It forces bowlers to constantly readjust their lines and captains to keep altering their fields.

"For the openers and No. 3, we think about particular players. But after that, if required, all the players now are prepared mentally and skill-wise to bat at any number. And I think that's a good sign," he said.

Flexibility

Such flexibility notably worked well for India in its triumphant T20 World Cup campaign in 2024. In the final against South Africa, Axar was promoted to No. 5 to maintain a left-right-duo as well as to ensure that Hardik and Dube were reserved for the latter overs.

The move was vindicated as Axar's 47 off 31 deliveries injected a bit of spark while allowing Virat Kohli to stick to his tried-and-trusted method.

When the 2026 T20 World Cup commences in February, it is only logical for India to want more of the same.

Dominant show: Haris smashed seven four and three sixes in his 43-ball 66 to help Pakistan post a competitive score. AP

Haris, spin quartet fire Pakistan past Oman in opener

Dhruva Prasad
DUBAI

Oman's reckless batting couldn't hold up a candle to its disciplined bowling effort as Pakistan clinched a 93-run win despite scoring a middling 160 in its Asia Cup skirmish at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium here on Friday.

After showing a glimpse of fight with 40 runs for the loss of two wickets in the PowerPlay, Oman was reduced to 49 for six by the halfway stage of the innings. No. 3 batter Hammad Mirza showed promise with a 23-ball 27, punching Pakistan's pace ace Shaheen Afridi for a four and sweeping left-arm spinner Mohammad Nawaz for a six, but ran out of patience when he went sweeping Sufiyan Muqeem from wide outside off to offer the slip fielder a quick grab.

Pakistan's spin quartet of Saim Ayub, Abrar Ahmed, Nawaz and Muqeem was too hot for Oman to handle. Saim, the part-timer, deceived Oman skipper Jatinder Singh with one that spun away to knock the off-stump and foxed Aamir Kaleem with dip. Muqeem and Nawaz joined the act before pacers Shaheen and Faheem Ashraf cleaned up the tail. The last batting pair of Shakeel Ahmed and Samay Shrivastava resisted for 27 balls.

Earlier, the going wasn't easy for Pakistan with the bat. Mohammad Haris (66, 43b, 7x4, 3x6) had to navigate through the brambles. The flashy right-hander's strike rate of 153.48 belied his initial struggle, which included six false shots off the first 18 balls he faced. But when he deposited medium-pacer Sufyan Mehmood over deep mid-wicket for a six to usher in a 32-ball half-century, and slammed the next delivery to the boundary through the same region, that period of strife was well behind him.

Haris eventually perished playing a reverse-sweep, and skipper Salman Ali Agha fell to a rank full toss next ball. With the innings losing steam after a raft of poor shots, Nawaz and Fakhar Zaman salvaged the late overs.

The scores: Pakistan 160/7 in 20 overs (Mohammad Haris 66, Shah Faisal 3/34, Aamir Kaleem 3/31) bt Oman 67 in 16.4 overs (Hammad Mirza 27, Saim Ayub 2/8, Sufiyan Muqeem 2/7, Faheem Ashraf 2/6). **Toss:** Pakistan; **PoM:** Haris.

Today's match

VS

Abu Dhabi, 8 p.m. IST

HEAD-TO-HEAD T20Is

Played: 20

Bangladesh 8 | Sri Lanka 12

LIVE ON SONY SPORTS TEN 5 (SD & HD) & LIV

Dhakshineswar, Nagal help India seize the advantage

DAVIS CUP

Sports Bureau

Great start: Dhakshineswar relied on his big serves and all-court game to begin his Davis Cup career on the right note. AP

Dhakshineswar Suresh played as if in a dream to beat Jerome Kym 7-6(5), 6-3 and gave India a 1-0 start in the Davis Cup World Group-1 tennis tie on the indoor hard courts in Biel, Switzerland, on Friday.

Later, Sumit Nagal capitalised on the inspiring start to beat Marc-Andrea Huesler 6-3, 7-6(4) in the second singles to help the visitors end the first day with a 2-0 lead.

The 25-year-old Dhakshineswar, making his Davis Cup debut despite his modest rank of 626, proved the faith placed on him with his big serves and energetic all-court game.

Comeback

The key to the contest was Dhakshineswar wriggling out of 0-40 in the fourth game of the first set, and again saving breakpoints in the fifth and seventh games of the second set. In between, he handled the first set tie-break with considerable poise.

"It feels like a dream. It is my debut for India in Davis Cup. I tried to be calm and play my game. There was pressure, but I am happy to have handled it well. It turned out to be good," said Dhakshineswar.

The towering Dhakshineswar who has been playing well in the professional circuit as a student of the Wake Forest University in the USA, was happy to have recovered from the bunch of breakpoints to deliver an impressive lead for India, against the Swiss No. 1, ranked 155 in the world.

The results:

India leads Switzerland 2-0
(Dhakshineswar Suresh bt Jerome Kym 7-6(5), 6-3.

Sumit Nagal bt Marc-Andrea Huesler 6-3, 7-6(4)).

Jaismine, Nupur on verge of glory

BOXING

Sports Bureau

Jaismine and Nupur. FLICKR@WORLDBOXING

Jaismine Lamboria (57kg) and Nupur Sheoran (80+kg) advanced to the final, while Minakshi Hooda (48kg) became the fourth Indian woman to enter the semifinals and ensure a medal at the World boxing championships in Liverpool on Friday.

Jaismine comprehensively beat another Paris Olympian Omailyn Alcala 5-0 in the last-four and set up a summit clash with Poland's Olympic silver medallist Julia Szermeta.

In a repeat of their World Boxing Cup semifinals in Astana, World Cup medallist Nupur defeated Turkish Seyma Duztas 5-0.

A 52kg Asian silver medallist in 2022, Minakshi outsmarted the 19-year-old home challenger Alice Pumphrey 5-0 in a 48kg quarterfinal bout.

She will take on Mongolian former Worlds and Asian medallist Altansetseg Lutsaikhan in the semifinals. Nupur showcased her hit-and-move long range game well against her stocky Turkish opponent to win all three rounds with unanimous decisions.

Jadumani Singh (50kg) fought bravely against 2023 World champion Sanzhar Tashkenbay of Kazakhstan before losing 0-4 in the quarterfinals.

'The players have nothing in mind apart from cricket'

Vivek Krishnan
DUBAI

Amidst calls for boycott of the Asia Cup contest between India and Pakistan on Sunday from some sections of the Indian public, Sitanshu Kotak, the batting coach of the national team, said the job of the cricketers is to focus on the game. While hostility is prevalent on both sides of the border even in calmer times, the four-day military conflict in May that followed a terror attack in Pahalgam has exacerbated the tension in recent months.

"Once we are here to play, I think players are focused on playing cricket," Kotak told the media contingent on Friday. "I personally don't think they have anything in mind apart from playing cricket."

When it emerged in July that this year's Asia Cup will go ahead as planned in the United Arab Emirates, polarised opinions on sporting ties between the arch-rivals began trickling in. But the sports ministry made it clear in the lead-up to the Asia Cup that India will continue to engage in multi-nation tournaments featuring Pakistan, but not take part in any bilateral meetings.

At a time like this, the "outside noise" that players often speak about can be deafening.

"For players and for us, once BCCI tells us and it is aligned with the government, we are here to prepare and we are here to play. It will be a competitive game. India versus Pakistan is always a competitive game. So, we rather focus on that," said the 52-year-old.

Ahead of the tournament, India skipper Suryakumar Yadav had been asked whether he would have to keep his players in check during the clash. "Aggression is always there when we take the field. And without aggression, I don't think you can play this sport. I'm very excited to take the field on the frontfoot," he had said.

Spin twins Varun and Kuldeep could trouble the Pakistan middle-order, reckons Akram

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

Wasim Akram believes that India's spinners could trouble the Pakistan middle-order when the two sides meet in the Asia Cup on Sunday.

In the marquee clash, India is likely to deploy three spinners, Varun Chakaravarthy, Kuldeep Yadav and Axar Patel.

The Pakistan middle-order, comprising the likes of Salman Agha, Hasan Nawaz and Mohammad Haris, could find the going tough, Akram believes.

"India are the favourites," Akram said in a media interaction organised by *Sony Sports Network*.

"The problem I see for Pakistan is their middle-order batting versus India's spinners.

"You can see off Jasprit Bumrah, but the likes of Varun and Kuldeep could trouble the batters.

"If a batter tries to read the ball after it has pitched, it means you have no idea what is happening," Akram said.

Miandad's last-ball six

The legendary pacer, a veteran of many India-Pakistan matches, spoke about the one from 1986, when Javed Miandad hit Chetan Sharma for a last-ball six to break Indian hearts at the Austral-Asia Cup final.

Bagful of tricks: Akram feels it is extremely tough to read both Kuldeep and Varun off the pitch. X@BCCI

Akram, who took three wickets in that outing, cheekily stated that he had played a part in Miandad's heroics.

"The great Javed Miandad used my bat. Thank you very much! He didn't return my bat after that," Akram laughed and said.

"Nobody knew at the time that you can hit a six off the last ball. Nowadays, it is very normal.

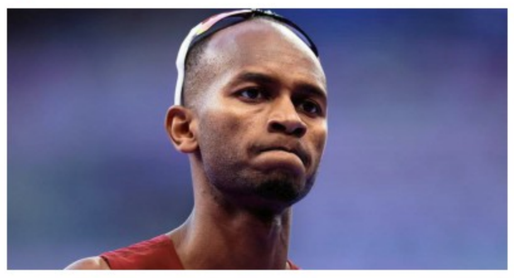
"In the mid 1980s, you hardly saw a six. It was just singles, twos and maybe a boundary now and then. As a 19-year-old, that match was just unbelievable.

'Great memory'

It is such a great memory for me. Of course, it was not good for India, or for my buddy, Chetan Sharma. But again, it was just a game of cricket," Akram elaborated.

(Watch Asia Cup live on *SONY SPORTS TEN 5 (SD & HD) & LIV)*

INBRIEF



Qatar's star high jumper Barshim out of Tokyo Worlds

Three-time former World high jump champion Mutaz Barshim announced his withdrawal on Friday on the eve of the World championships in Tokyo because of a foot injury. The 34-year-old Qatari, who won world titles in 2017, 2019 and 2022, also claimed Olympic gold at the Tokyo Games in 2021. He won bronze at last year's Paris Olympics. "I've been battling with a very serious injury since April," Barshim said on social media.

Mehuli Ghosh places 23rd in rifle 3-position event

Mehuli Ghosh shot 583 and placed 23rd in the 50-metre rifle 3-position event in the World Cup in Ningbo, China, on Friday.

The results: 50m rifle 3-position: Women: 1. Jeanette Duestad (Nor) 466.2 (589), 2. Rikke Ibsen (Den) 463.3 (587), 3. Barbora Dubska (Cze) 451.4 (586); 23. Mehuli Ghosh 583; 45. Manini Kaushik 580; 52. Surabhi Bharadwaj 578; RPO: Vidarsa Vinod 585; Ayushi Podder 582.

Recurve archer Gatha exits in the pre-quarterfinals

India's recurve campaign at the World archery championships in Gwangju, Korea, ended with teenager Gatha Khadake's exit in the pre-quarterfinals on Friday. Gatha lost 0-6 to Olympics gold medallist Lim Sihyeon of the host nation. With two compound team medals, including a gold and a silver, India finished joint fourth with France.

United 'keeper Onana joins Trabzonspor on loan

Manchester United's Cameroon goalkeeper Andre Onana has completed a season-long loan move to Turkish side Trabzonspor.

Olympic sprinter Knighton faces four-year ban for doping

Two-time Olympic finalist Erriyon Knighton was banned for four years on Friday in a doping case for an anabolic steroid. The Court of Arbitration for Sport said its judges upheld separate appeals by the World Anti-Doping Agency and track and field investigators which asked for a maximum four-year ban after he was cleared by a tribunal in the US. The ban should expire in early July 2028, just days before the LA Olympics open.

Coach Slot to slowly integrate Isak into the Liverpool side

Liverpool's new signing Alexander Isak will be gradually integrated into the team after his heavily interrupted start to the season, manager Arne Slot said on Friday. "Don't expect Isak to play every single game, 90 minutes – that's definitely not going to happen soon," Slot said.

LIVE TELECAST

World Athletics C'ships: SS Select 1, 2 (SD & HD), JioHotstar, 4 a.m.

Duleep Trophy: (final), day 3, Star Sports Khel & JioHotstar, 9.30 a.m.

Premier League: SS Select 1, 2 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 5, 7.30, 10 p.m. & 12.30 a.m. (Sunday)

LaLiga: FanCode, 5.30, 7.45, 10 p.m. & 12.30 a.m. (Sunday)

Serie A: DAZN, 6.30, 9.30 p.m. & 12.15 a.m. (Sunday)

Bundesliga: Sony LIV, 7 & 10 p.m.

Asia Cup: Sony Sports Ten 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 8 p.m.

PKL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 8 p.m.

Central in complete command as Patidar and Rathod slam centuries

The skipper's 15th First Class hundred and the southpaw's unbeaten 137 take the team to 384 for five, a lead of 235 runs, at the end of day two

DULEEP TROPHY FINAL

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

Rajat Patidar (101, 115b, 12x4, 2x6) and Yash Rathod (137 batting, 188b, 11x4, 1x6) took Central Zone to a strong position against South Zone on the second day of their Duleep Trophy final at the BCCI CoE Ground (1) here on Friday.

Patidar and Rathod shut South out of the contest with a 167-run fourth-wicket stand. Central finished the day on 384 for five, with a 235-run first-innings lead.

Vidarbha batter Rathod, the highest run-scorer of the Ranji Trophy 2024-25 season, blunted spinners Ankit Sharma and Ricky Bhui. Quick to spot the length and rock back, Rathod picked the gaps with ease.

In the evening session, Rathod and Saransh Jain (47 batting) completely deflated South with an unbroken 118-run stand.

Patidar's fine form continued, with the skipper notching up his 15th First Class hundred.

Patidar was at his best against pacers Gurjapneet Singh, V. Koushik and M.D. Nidheesh, presenting the full face of the bat with pleasing straight drives.

The Central captain displayed his full range of strokes when off-spinner Bhui came on. A big hit over mid-wicket, sweeps and a cut left Bhui searching for answers.

Patidar received a reprieve on 44, when he offered no shot to left-arm tweaker Ankit and was adjudged leg-before.

Replays, however, showed that Ankit had overstepped.

The 32-year-old was finally trapped by a bouncer from Gurjapneet, tickling a hook to the wicket-keeper.

Earlier, Koushik gave South hope at the start of the day by removing Akshay Wadkar.

The opener shouldered arms to a ball which pitched outside off, but moved in sharply to hit the stumps.

Wadkar's partner Danish Malewar (53, 120b, 5x4) continued to impress. The 21-year-old, who only made his senior debut last season, displayed commendable fortitude to see off the new ball.

The scores:
South Zone 149 vs Central Zone 384/5 in 104 overs (Danish Malewar 53, Rajat Patidar 101, Yash Rathod 137 batting, Saransh Jain 47 batting, Gurjapneet Singh 3/74).

Regal batting: Rathod and Patidar shut South out of the contest with a 167-run fourth-wicket stand.
K. MURALI KUMAR

Carrying weight of expectations, Neeraj aims to defend gold in World c'ships

Press Trust of India
TOKYO

Neeraj Chopra will aim to become only the third men's javelin thrower in history to defend the World championships gold as he carries the country's weight of expectations as the lone Indian medal prospect in the athletics showpiece beginning here on Saturday.

Neeraj had won gold in the 2023 edition in Budapest with a throw of 88.17m, while Pakistan's reigning Olympic champion Arshad Nadeem (87.82m) and Czechia's Jakub Vadlejch (86.67m) had pocketed silver and bronze respectively.

If the two-time Olympic medallist Indian wins gold on September 18, the day of the finals, he will become the third man ever to win the World championships javelin title in two consecutive editions.

The legendary Czech thrower Jan Zelezny (1993 and 1995), who is now here with Neeraj as his coach, and Anderson Peters (2019 and 2022) of Grenada are the two who have so far achieved the feat.

Neeraj, who is leading a 19-member Indian team, will face Nadeem for the first time in more than a year after the 2024 Paris Olympics, giving him a chance to avenge his second-place finish in the French capital.

The qualifying round of men's javelin will be held on September 17. On form, however, Weber will start as favourite.

Apart from the men's javelin throwers, the likes of Annu Rani (women's javelin throw), Parul Chaudhary (women's 3000m steeplechase), Murali Sreeshankar (men's long jump), Gulveer Singh (men's 5000m) and Praveen Chithravel (men's triple jump) would look to reach the final rounds.

Ram Baboo and Sandeep Kumar will compete in the men's 35km race walk on Saturday while Priyanka Goswami will feature in the corresponding women's event early in the morning.

In the evening session, Pooja will run her 1500m heat race.

Tough challenge: With all top javelin throwers in the fray, Neeraj may find it difficult to defend his title.
FILE PHOTO: AP

Lakshya, Satwik-Chirag pair make semifinals

BADMINTON

Press Trust of India
HONG KONG

Indian shuttler Lakshya Sen and the pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty sailed into the semifinals of their respective events at the Hong Kong Open Super 500 badminton tournament here on Friday. Lakshya beat compatriot Ayush Shetty 21-16, 17-21, 21-13 in a hard-fought men's singles quarterfinal contest that lasted one hour and six minutes.

Earlier, Satwiksairaj and Chirag cruised into the semifinals, defeating their Malaysian opponents Arif Junaidi and Roy King Yap 21-14, 20-22, 21-16.

The eighth-seeded Indian pair made a slow start, but once they found momentum at 12-all, they surged ahead with powerful smashes. The Malaysians found their rhythm in the second game and made a strong comeback.

In the decider, the Indians didn't allow the opponents to even once take the lead or threaten them to grab an easy win in the end.

The results (quarterfinals):
Men: Lakshya Sen bt Ayush Shetty 21-16, 17-21, 21-13.
Doubles: Satwiksairaj Rankireddy & Chirag Shetty bt Arif Junaidi & Roy King Yap (Mas) 21-14, 20-22, 21-16.

Sailing through: Satwik-Chirag pair beat Malaysia's Junaidi-Yap duo 21-14, 20-22, 21-16 in the quarterfinals. X@MEDIA_SAI

Splendid Dream wins F.K. Irani Memorial Million

RACING

MYSURU: S. Attaollahi-trained Splendid Dream (Shreyas S up) won the F.K. Irani Memorial Million (1,200m), the feature event of the races held here on Friday (Sept 12). The winner is owned by Mr. D.R. Thacker rep. DT Racing & Breeding LLP.

1. PADDOCK PLATE (1,400M): RICH STRIKE (Ayaz Khan) 1, Warrior Women (Antony) 2, Pette's Choice (Prabhu K) 3 and Seductive (S. Imran) 4. 1/2, 2-1/2 and 2-1/2. 1m, 25.72s. ₹128 (w), 26, 10 and 13 (p), SHP: 31, THP: 42, FP: 493, Q: 100, Trinella: 1,032/716, Exacta: 20,334/8,714. Favourite: Warrior Woman. Owners: M/s. K. Rakesh Raje Urs & Mr. P. Packiasamy. Trainer: S. Ashwin Rao.

2. SECUNDERABAD PLATE (1,100M): LEAD SINGER (M. Prabhakaran) 1, N R I Gold (Faiz) 2, Golden Gallery (Vinod Shinde) 3 and Clyde Star (Ankit Pal) 4. 1-3/4, Lnk and 1-1/2. 1m, 06.65s. ₹162 (w), 29, 19 and 18 (p), SHP: 58, THP: 34, FP: 1,294, Q: 3,111, Trinella: 7,335/5,239, Exacta: 24,378 (carried over). Favourite: Raffles. Owners: Mr. B.P. Devaraja & Mr. K.S. Kiran. Trainer: S. Ashwin Rao.

3. POLICE TROPHY (1,200M): THE GOLDEN SUNRISE (Abhishek Mhatre) 1, Falcon Fury (S. Imran) 2, Court Jester (Faiz) 3 and Creative Girl (Antony) 4. 4-1/2, Snk and 3/4. 1m, 10.43s. ₹25 (w), 13, 16 and 23 (p), SHP: 51, THP: 60, FP: 519, Q: 321, Trinella: 1,406/1,054, Exacta: 22,193/2,377. Favourite: The Golden Sunrise. Owner: Mr. Girish Byrappa. Trainer: Ranjeet Shinde.

4. F.K. IRANI MEMORIAL MILLION (1,200M): SPLENDID DREAM (Shreyas S) 1, Magnetar (Akshay K) 2, Midnight Blue (Antony) 3 and Republican Star (Rayan) 4. 2-1/2, 8-1/4 and 4. 1m, 10.06s. ₹31 (w), 10 and 14 (p), SHP: 32, THP: 25, FP: 67, Q: 18, Trinella: 93/49, Exacta: 147/80. Favourite: Magnetar. Owner: Mr. D.R. Thacker rep. DT Racing & Breeding LLP. Trainer: S. Attaollahi.

5. M.W. CHINNAPPA MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,200M): KNOTTY BLUSH (P. Sai Kumar) 1, Jersey King (Antony) 2, Serrano (Hindu S) 3 and Metzinger (Vivek) 4. 3/4, Shd and 1-1/2. 1m, 10.46s. ₹17 (w), 15, 11 and 14 (p), SHP: 27, THP: 23, FP: 31, Q: 17, Trinella: 40/31, Exacta: 248/121. Favourite: Knotty Blush. Owners: Mr. K. Kamesh & Mr. Ashok Rannpise. Trainer: K. Purshotham.

6. JOG FALLS PLATE (1,600M): TOLKIEN (Antony) 1, Acantha (P. Sai Kumar) 2, Thrill Of Brazil (Dhanu S) 3 and Supreme Success (Akshay K) 4. 8-1/2, 7-1/2 and 1-1/2. 1m, 35.72s. ₹16 (w), 12, 28 and 18 (p), SHP: 102, THP: 25, FP: 397, Q: 159, Trinella: 1,059/256, Exacta: 1,925/825. Favourite: Tolkien. Owner: Mr. Tegbir Singh Brar rep. Sarainaga Racing Pvt Ltd. Trainer: Darius Byramji.

Jackpot: ₹10,130 (two tkts.); Runner-up: 2,492 (two tkts.); Mini Jackpot: 509 (six tkts.); Treble (i): 352 (carried over); (ii): 113 (12 tkts.).

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Khush stars for Bangalore City XI with a five-for

Khush Kothari (five for 10) starred for Bangalore City XI as it secured the first-innings lead in a drawn KSCA U-19 inter-zonal tournament encounter against Mangalore.

The scores: Mangalore 117 in 47.3 overs (Khush Kothari 5/10) & 141/5 in 41 overs (S. Gagan Rao 59, Ayaan Sharmod Kumar 42) drew with Bangalore City XI 224 in 62 overs (Nishchinth Parmashwar 60, Rennell Pais 6/24).

Vice President's XI 199 in 60.1 overs (R. Prajwal Gowda 50, Vallabh Hegde 5/28) & 93 in 40.3 overs (K.L. Tharun Kumar 5/39) drew with Mysore 81 in 40.2 overs & 81/4 in 21 overs (Praneeth Shetty 40 n.o.).

Secretary's XI 244 in 77.4 overs (Arnav Mishra 42, Rehan Mohammed 114) drew with Shivamogga 43/1 in 10 overs.

Dharwad 323/9 in 90 overs (Raed 70, Siddesh A. Asalkar 81, Manikanth Shivanand 51, Ashutosh D. Hiremath 57, Susheel R. Udupi 4/44) drew with Bangalore 211/7 in 84 overs (Vaasav Venkatesh 50, C. Vaibhav 40 n.o.).

Raichur 250 in 85.1 overs (Arpith Rajeev Naganand 40, Aniketh Reddy 116) drew with Tumkur 117/3 in 44 overs.

Combined City XI 185 in 48.4 overs (S.J. Aadharsh 71, Sunny Kanchi 4/56) drew with President's XI 184 in 63.2 overs (Sean Pratyush Cyril 75, Eesa Hakeem Puthige 3/35).

State-ranking TT from Sept. 25

Jayanagar Table Tennis Association (JTTA), in association with BMS College of Engineering will conduct a State-ranking table tennis tournament from September 25 to 28 at BMSCE, Basavanagudi (Bengaluru). Entries close on September 20. Call Sham: 8217796386.

Facile win for South United

South United defeated MFAR Students Union FC 3-1 in the BDFA Super Division League football here on Friday.

The results: South United FC 3 (Makakmayum Daniyal 1, 90+2, Mohammad Kaif 69) bt MFAR Students Union FC 1 (Ameen Khazeer 53); Kodagu FC 0 drew with Sporting Club Bengaluru 0; HAL FC 1 bt Bharat Bengaluru FC 0 (Ather Irshad 20).

Mohsin's six-for powers KSCA Colts' big win

Sports Bureau
BENGALURU

Mohsin Khan scalped six for 73 as KSCA Colts defeated Andhra by 141 runs in the KSCA-Dr. (Capt.) K. Thimmappiah Memorial tournament match at the SJCE grounds in Mysuru on Friday. Chasing a mammoth 417, Andhra, after starting the final day's play from 90 for two, reached 171 without further loss, kindling hopes of survival.

But three wickets for just seven runs – all three for Mohsin – scuttled Andhra's plans. The two set batters in Maheep Kumar (93, 180b, 14x4, 2x6) and Ashwin Hebbar (38, 70b, 2x4, 1x6), and S.V. Rahul were all sent back as Colts scented victory.

Lower-order resistance from M. Hemanth Reddy (41, 44b, 3x4, 3x6) and P. Girinath Reddy (43, 62b, 5x4, 2x6) did not amount to much, and it did not help that K.S.N. Raju was unable to bat, as the Colts ensured that Andhra made just 275 second-innings runs.

The scores: In Bengaluru:
Gujarat 262 in 102.5 overs drew with Mumbai 222/6 in 75 overs.
KSCA Secretary's XI 315 in 98.5 overs & 38/3 in 11 overs bt Assam 140 in 36.5 overs & 212 in 86.1 overs (Sibsankar Roy 51, Abhishek Ahlawat 5/52).
Maharashtra 136 in 41 overs & 127/2 in 43 overs (Yash Kshirsagar 65 batting) vs. Goa 333 in 90.3 overs.
Vidarbha 383 in 110.5 overs & 103 for no loss in 18.5 overs drew with KSCA President's XI 250 in 75.3 overs (S.U. Karthik 82, Sharath Srinivas 51, Adhoksh 50, Lalit Yadav 3/37).
Tripura 314 in 113.5 overs vs Chhattisgarh 337/5 decl. in 106 overs (Rishabh Tiwari 58, Anuj Tiwari 113, Ashutosh Singh 53 n.o., Amandeep Khare 44).
In Mysuru: Himachal Pradesh 515/8 in 158.2 overs & 16 for no loss in five overs drew with Baroda 440 in 119.3 overs (Jyotsnil 110, Ninad Rathwa 56, Mitesh Patel 102, Mahesh Pithiya 46).
KSCA Colts 450 in 106.5 overs & 189/8 decl. in 48.5 overs bt Andhra CA 223 in 64.3 overs & 275/9 in 73.4 overs (K. Maheep Kumar 93, M. Hemanth Reddy 41, P. Girinath Reddy 43, Mohsin Khan 6/73).

Mandaviya calls for sport to be a national movement

IOA chief Usha presses for a cultural shift towards grassroots sport on the opening day; speakers agree lasting change will depend on governance reform, grassroots investment and innovations

Sports Bureau

In his keynote address on Day 1 of the PlayCom 2025: Business of Sports Summit at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, Union Sports Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya called for sport to become a national movement. Urging a holistic approach that goes beyond elite programmes, he said: "When 140 crore Indians move forward with collective resolve, the nation moves 140 crore steps ahead."

Indian Olympic Association president and legendary sprinter P.T. Usha pressed for a cultural shift towards grassroots sport.

"Talent is not confined to big cities. It exists in villages and small towns. What our young athletes need is opportunity, proper training, nutrition, and encouragement. When we build such a culture, medals will follow naturally," she said. The day also saw IndianOil chairman Arvinder Singh Sahney unveil *Sportstar*'s special preview edition on the World Para Athletics Championships.

Governance reform dominated one of the sessions in the morning. Kunal (Joint Secretary, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports) said: "The National Sports Governance Act is built upon three core pillars: athlete-centricity, good governance and global alignment. It addresses the issues needed for federations to function effectively and align with international regulations."

Legal expert Vidushpat Singhania added, "There is going to be more stability in the federations, which is actually the major requirement, especially if they are going to bid for major events like the Olympics or World championships."

In another panel, Ramkumar Subramanian (Director, Collage Design), said that sports infrastructure should follow an athlete-first design approach while high-performance consultant Rushdee Warley noted that creating an environment where athletes feel at home can increase their performance rates.

In the 'Stadiums Without Walls' panel, fan engagement was the focus, with Siddharth Sharma (Head, Viewership and Monetisation Initiative - Sports, *JioStar*), declaring: "The fan wants to be the director of his own field. The more you empower them, the more deep their experience will be."

Veer Damaraju (EVP, Technology, DAZN India) concurred, saying, added, "Fans want to be immersed, informed, and in the middle of the game. That is where AI is shifting control from editorial teams to fans themselves."

The opening day struck a balance between celebration and challenge: India hosting the World Para Athletics Championships for the first time is a milestone, for instance, but lasting change, speakers agreed, will depend on governance reform, grassroots investment and innovation that sustains athletes and fans beyond the headlines.

The day also saw the release of the KPMG *Sportstar* India Business of Sports Report which predicts that the country's sports industry will grow to $50 billion by 2030.

On the National Sports Policy, Mandaviya stated: "We must learn from the world, but our framework must reflect India's unique strengths. The policy emphasises good governance, strong infrastructure, the application of sports science, and systematic talent identification and nurturing."

The Minister underlined the importance of governance reforms.

"Too often, federations spend their energy in disputes rather than focusing on athletes. That is why we introduced the Good Governance Bill. Representation of women is key. Fifty per cent of our society and our athletes are women – their concerns must be heard, their voices must be present in leadership."

Looking ahead, he said, "Our vision is that every child should grow up with the passion to play, every street should become a playground, and every podium should be a stage for India's flag to fly high."

Grand opening: *Sportstar* Editor Ayon Sengupta, IOA president P.T. Usha, Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, Chairperson of *The Hindu* Group Nirmala Lakshman and partner and Head of Sport's sector KPMG, Prasanth Shanthakumaran, at the summit. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

SPORTSTAR × KPMG
PLAYCOM
BUSINESS OF SPORTS SUMMIT I 2025

> Today through PlayCom 2025, we turn our gaze to the economics, governance, and innovation driving global sport. We hope to foster meaningful dialogue, share best practices, and explore solutions that can strengthen India's sporting future
>
> **NIRMALA LAKSHMAN**
> Chairperson, *The Hindu* Group

'India must be among the top five sporting nations in the world by 2047'

Sports Bureau

Union Sports Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya on Friday inaugurated the PlayCom 2025: Business of Sports Summit at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, organised by *The Hindu* Group's *Sportstar* in partnership with global consulting firm KPMG India.

"I am happy that through *Sportstar*, important conversations around sport, sports science, and athlete welfare are being brought to the forefront," he said.

"To help our athletes compete and win on the global stage, the government has launched the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS), which provides world-class facilities to elite sportspersons. But to truly take Indian sport forward, we need a holistic approach – a vision document, clear planning, and the involvement of all stakeholders.

"We are working with both a 10-year and a 25-year vision.

"By 2047, when India completes 100 years of Independence, the Prime Minister has set the goal of making India a developed nation. Alongside that journey, our target is clear – India must be among the top five sporting nations in the world."

Clear target: Mandaviya said that the government is working with both a 10-year and a 25-year vision to take Indian sport forward. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

What's on PlayCom today

Young Turks	: A New Sporting Vision for New India
Wired for Winning	: Tech, AI & the Science of Sport
Purpose Play	: CSR, Inclusion & Sport for All
New Frontiers in Sports	: Play, Fitness and More
Spotlight Session	: Innovation in Sport - Microsoft Perspective
Beyond the Game	: Building Careers in Sports
Gameplan 2036	: India's Global Event Ambitions
Kapil Dev	: Leadership & Life Beyond the Pitch
State Showcase	: Uttar Pradesh, Punjab

Tamil Nadu emerging India's sporting hub

Sports Bureau

Tamil Nadu is quietly scripting one of India's most compelling sporting stories. At the PlayCom 2025: Business of Sports Summit on Friday, senior officials outlined how the State has married grassroots programmes, elite athlete support, and marquee international events to build a national sporting powerhouse.

This success is closely tied to the State's Olympic Quest scheme initiated by the government. The programme rests on three pillars: hiring top foreign coaches at competitive salaries, setting up Olympic academies, and providing high incentives/jobs to medal prospects.

"We found that in at least 10-15 Olympic disciplines, India has no representation – like BMX, climbing, taekwondo, and there is feeble representation in rugby sevens, softball, handball," said Dr. Atulya Misra, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Department of Youth Welfare and Sports Development, one of the key architects of the State's sports strategy. The proposed Sports City will therefore include facilities like BMX tracks and climbing walls, ensuring Indian athletes at least have exposure.

Yet the officials admitted that gaps remain.

"High-performance centres are valuable for elite athletes but corporates should also invest at the grassroot level. Many young athletes lack basic financial support for equipment or travel," said J. Meghanatha Reddy, IAS, Member Secretary and CEO, Tamil Nadu Sports Development Authority.

The Tamil Nadu Champions Foundation has stepped into this gap. Reddy cited the story of M. Khazima, daughter of an auto driver, who needed ₹1.5 lakh to compete at the Carrom World Cup in the U.S. last year. "We supported her, and she went on to win the singles crown."

Tamil Nadu's sporting footprint extends well beyond the Olympic arena. The State has produced 34 of India's 89 chess Grandmasters, two World chess champions, four Paris Paralympic medallists, and 12 Olympians, including six in track and field. At the Hangzhou Asian and Para Asian Games, the TN athletes contributed to 43 medals.

Tamil Nadu has already staged the Chess Olympiad, Squash World Cup, and Asian Surfing Championship, signalling its intent to be India's sporting hub of both participation and spectacle.

Making a point: Meghanatha Reddy and Prasanth listen intently to Dr. Atulya Misra during the session. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

A peek into the future of sports industry

What's in store? The KPMG *Sportstar* India Business of Sports Report was unveiled by Nilachal Mishra, Partner and Head of the Government & Public Services (G&PS) practice - KPMG, Vandana Chopra - Head of Brand and Communications - KPMG, Kala Anand, Director - Sports Advisory at KPMG, *Sportstar* Editor Ayon Sengupta, IOA president P.T. Usha, Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, Prasanth Shanthakumaran, Partner and Head of Sports Sector - KPMG India, Dr. Nirmala Lakshman, Chairperson of *The Hindu* Group, Naveen Agarwal, Office Managing Partner for Delhi NCR, KPMG, and CEO of *The Hindu* Group, L.V. Navaneeth. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Grassroots development holds the key to India's future success: Usha

Sports Bureau

P.T. Usha, the first woman president of the Indian Olympic Association and one of India's greatest athletes, called for a cultural shift in how the country views sport, saying grassroots development holds the key to India's future success. Usha began by congratulating the organisers of the of PlayCom 2025: Business of Sports Summit. "*Sportstar* has been an iconic magazine for decades, one I have admired and had the honour of featuring in multiple times. KPMG too deserves appreciation for developing a mobile application for athletes who travelled to the Paris Olympics in 2024, a thoughtful innovation that was very well received."

Usha said her defining moment came at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, where she missed the 400m hurdles bronze medal by a hundredth of a second. "To many, it looked like defeat. But for me, it was a defining moment. It proved that an Indian woman could stand shoulder to shoulder with the best in the world."

"Dhyan Chand's hockey is our dream, Milkha Singh's inspirational runs, cricketers uniting the nation, and today's champions in badminton, wrestling, boxing, and shooting – these triumphs are not just medals or records, they are turning points that changed how India saw itself and what it believed was possible. But history alone cannot carry us forward. The real question is, what is the future of Indian sports? I believe the answer lies in grassroots development."

Usha pressed for a change in mindset across society. "Sports should not be something we watch only during a big match. It should be woven into our daily lives. Every school should give children time and space to play. Every community should have safe grounds for boys and girls to train. Parents should see sport not as a risk, but as an opportunity. When we build such a culture, medals and records will follow naturally."

Need for a change in mindset: Usha feels that sports should be woven into our daily lives. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

'Sports Governance Act is essential to address ecosystem of sport'

Sports Bureau

"The National Sports Governance Act is essential to address the complete ecosystem of sport," said Kunal, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, at the PlayCom 2025: Business of Sports Summit at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, on Friday.

The session, titled 'Breaking Down the National Sports Governance Act,' featured Kunal in discussion with Vidushpat Singhania, Managing Partner at Krida Legal and one of India's foremost sports and gaming lawyers, moderated by *Sportstar* Editor Ayon Sengupta.

"When we see the issues which are plaguing the ecosystem - which hinges on the development of sport as a driver of the economy and as a vehicle of social change - the good governance framework is critical. This Bill, and now Act, is built upon three core pillars: athlete centricity, good governance and global alignment and with adherence to the Olympic Charter and international regulations," he added.

Kunal explained that the drafting process drew on both Indian precedents and international models. "We also looked at international practices - the US system, then Australia, the UK and France, which all have courts of sport. So these international best practices were thoroughly studied. Our own sports court, its functioning, different court orders - everything was studied deeply and after due consultation this Bill was framed."

The Act requires every national sports body to have a general body with equal representation from affiliate members, alongside designated ex-officio members. Singhania pointed out that this framework should not be seen as undue interference by international bodies. "This autonomy question is a googly that is often thrown. The sports governance standards have been in existence since 1975. At no time has an international federation really said that imposing good governance norms is bad for Indian sport. Imposing good governance standards is there worldwide. I do not think the international federations object to the imposition of good governance standards. In fact, even the IOC has come out with the principles of good governance."

Airing their views: Kunal, Singhania and Ayon Sengupta at the summit. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

‘We all need to collaborate and share best practices’

The industry giants discuss the development and future of the corporate ecosystem in sports

Taking stock: Neerav Tomar (CEO and MD, IOS Sport & Entertainment), Sumit Antil (Paralympic javelin champion), Rani Rampal (former India hockey captain), Mirabai Chanu (Olympic silver-winning weightlifter) and moderator Nandini Kumar at the summit. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Sports Bureau

Collaboration between major players will determine the growth and future of the corporate ecosystem in sports, felt industry leaders during a panel discussion at PlayCom 2025: Business of Sports Summit at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, on Friday.

The session, titled ‘Moneyball India - Where Capital Meets Competition’, featured Satyam Trivedi (CEO, GMR Sports), Sanjay Adesara (CEO, Adani Sportsline), Divyanshu Singh (CEO, JSW Sports), and Uditvanu Das (Associate Vice President, Head of Sports, Havas Play India) moderated by Kala Anand, Director, Sports Advisory at KPMG India.

“This industry is at a juncture where we all need to collaborate, create value, and share best practices. There is growth that happens because of being competitive,” said Divyanshu.

Satyam broke down the profitability quotient in various sectors of the sports industry. “Let’s say when you talk about franchise or league-level investment, you go with a very long-term mindset because you know that it’s going to take at least three to five years for you to break even. But manufacturing is very different from that.

“If you look at any property that we evaluate, financial discipline is key. That’s, I think, the core of any investment that we look at because ultimately it’s a business and it has to meet business sets,” said Satyam.

Uditvanu described the sports sector as still fairly nascent. “We are at a per capita income of around $2,800, similar to where China was in 2008.

“The moment we cross $3,500-3,700 per capita income, the amount of extra money this economy will generate is going to be huge.

“The long waiting in the queue will come to an end very soon. The next decade will belong to this country for sure, and sport will be one of those sectors,” he added.

The way forward: Satyam Trivedi, Sanjay Adesara, Divyanshu Singh, Uditvanu Das and Kala Anand. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

Elite league: Anupam Goswami (League Commissioner, PKL), Arun Dhumal (Chairman, IPL), Rajah Chaudhry (Head of Strategy, Asia Pacific & Country Head - India, NBA) , Vita Dani (Chairperson, UTT) and K.C. Vijaya Kumar, Sports Editor, *The Hindu*. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

Fan Universe: Siddharth Sharma (Head of Content, Sports, JioStar), Veer Damaraju (EVP, Technology, DAZN India), L.V. Navaneeth (CEO, *The Hindu* Group), Aneesh Madani (Former Head of Partnerships and Innovation, IOC) and Nikhil Bansal (Head, Gaming & eServices, Google India). SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

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